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ABSTRACT

This guide describes federal student aid programs for postsecondary education and how to apply for them. It begins by outlining sources for learning about student aid, such as school financial aid administrators, state higher education agencies, foundations, organizations related to particular fields of interest, and toll-free telephone numbers for information on the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program and the AmeriCorps program. The guide presents general information about federal student aid, including eligibility in terms of need and dependency status, the application process, special circumstances, deadlines, and important phone numbers. It then provides more detailed descriptions of the Federal Pell Grant Program, Federal Stafford Loans, PLUS Loans (Loans for Parents), Consolidation Loans; and the following campus-based programs: Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Perkins Loans. The guide concludes with a discussion of borrower responsibilities and rights, procedures for loan deferment, discharge/cancellation, and a glossary of important terms. A Free Application for Federal Student Aid is included. (KG)

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1996-97

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Financial Aid

from the U.S. Department of Education

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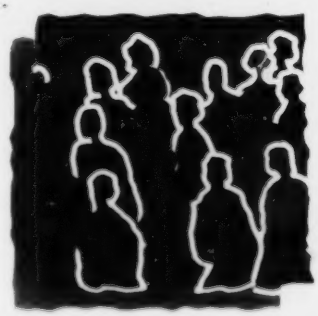
Finding Out About Student Aid

The Student Guide tells you about federal student financial aid (SFA) programs and how to apply for them. Education or training after high school costs more than ever, and you need to learn about as many sources of aid as you can. Sources you can use to find out about student aid include:

- The financial aid administrator (FAA) at each school in which you're interested can tell you what aid programs are available there and how much the total cost of attendance* will be.
- The state higher education agency in your home state can give you information about state aid—including aid from the State Student Incentive Grant (SSIG) Program, which is jointly funded by individual states and the U.S. Department of Education.
- The agency in your state responsible for public elementary and secondary schools can give you information on the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program (Byrd Program). To qualify for aid under the Byrd Program, you must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and show promise of continued academic excellence.

  For the address and telephone number of the appropriate state agency, contact your school's financial aid office or call:

  1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).
- The AmeriCorps program provides full-time educational awards in return for work in community service. You can work before, during, or after your postsecondary education, and you can use the funds either to pay current educational expenses or to repay federal student loans. For more information on this program, call **1-800-942-2677** or write to: The Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20525.
- Your public library is an excellent source of information on state and private sources of aid.
- Many companies, as well as labor unions, have programs to help pay the cost of postsecondary education for employees, members, or their children.
- Check foundations, religious organizations, fraternities or sororities, and town or city clubs. Include community organizations and civic groups such as the American Legion, YMCA, 4-H Club, Elks, Kiwanis, Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce, and the Girl or Boy Scouts.
- Don't overlook aid from organizations connected with your field of interest (for example, the American Medical Association or the American Bar Association). These organizations are listed in the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook and are also listed in various directories of associations available at your public library.
- If you (or your spouse) are a veteran or the dependent of a veteran, veterans educational benefits may be available. Check with your local Veterans' Affairs office.



**The Guide uses several terms or concepts that you will need to be familiar with. Whenever these terms occur in the text, they will have an asterisk (*) next to them. This means the term will be defined in the "Important Terms" section, pages 30 to 32.*

General Information

The U.S. Department of Education has the following major student financial aid (SFA) programs:

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Stafford Loans
- Federal PLUS Loans
- Federal Consolidation Loans
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
- Federal Work-Study (FWS)
- Federal Perkins Loans

Grants are financial aid you don't have to pay back.

Work-Study lets you work and earn money to help pay for school.

Loans are borrowed money that you must repay with interest.

Undergraduates may receive all three types of financial aid. **Graduate students** may receive loans or Federal Work-Study, but not Federal Pell Grants or FSEOG.

Not all schools take part in all the programs. To find out which ones are available at a particular school, contact the financial aid office.

Student Eligibility

To receive aid from the major student aid programs discussed in the *Guide*, you must—

- have **financial need**, except for some loan programs. (See below.)
- have a **high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED)*** Certificate, pass a test approved by the U.S. Department of Education, or meet other standards your state establishes that are approved by the U.S. Department of Education. See your financial aid administrator for more information.
- be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a **regular student*** working toward a degree or certificate in an **eligible program.*** (You may not receive aid for correspondence or telecommunications courses unless they are part of an associate, bachelor's, or graduate degree program.)
- be a **U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.***
- have a **valid Social Security Number.**
- make **satisfactory academic progress.***
- sign a **statement of educational purpose and a certification statement on overpayment and default*** (both found on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)).
- register with the **Selective Service,*** if required.

Financial Need

Aid from most of the major programs discussed in the *Guide* is awarded on the basis of financial need (except for unsubsidized Stafford, all PLUS and Consolidation loans—see pages 8 through 19).

When you apply for federal student aid, the information you report is used in a formula, established by the U.S. Congress, that calculates your **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**, an amount you and your family are expected to contribute toward your education. If your EFC is below a certain amount, you'll be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, assuming you meet all other eligibility requirements. (See page 7.)

There isn't a maximum EFC that defines eligibility for the other financial aid programs. (See pages

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

8 through 23 for information on these programs.) Instead, your EFC is used in an equation to determine your financial need:

Cost of attendance*
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
= Financial Need

Your financial aid administrator (FAA) calculates your cost of attendance (COA),* and subtracts the amount you and your family are expected to contribute toward that cost. If there's anything left over, you're considered to have financial need. In determining your need for aid from the SFA programs, your FAA must first consider other aid you're expected to receive.

Your FAA can adjust the EFC formula's data elements or adjust your COA* if he or she believes your family's financial circumstances warrant it based on the documentation you provide. However, the FAA does not have to make such an adjustment. For more information on Special Circumstances, see page 5.

You can get a booklet called the "Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Formulas," which describes how the EFC formulas are calculated, by writing to:

Federal Student Aid Information Center
P.O. Box 84
Washington, DC 20044

Dependency Status

When you apply for federal student aid, your answers to certain questions will determine whether you're considered dependent on your parents — and must report their income and assets as well as your own — or whether you're independent and must report only your own income and assets (and those of your spouse, if you're married).

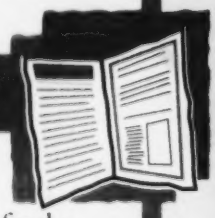
Students are classified as dependent or independent because federal student aid programs are based on the idea that students (and their parents or spouse, if applicable) have the primary responsibility for paying for their postsecondary education. Students who have access to parental support (dependent students) should not receive need-based federal funds at the expense of students who do not have such access (independent students).

You're an independent student if at least one of the following applies to you:

- you were born before January 1, 1973;
- you're married;
- you're enrolled in a graduate or professional educational program;
- you have legal dependents other than a spouse;
- you're an orphan or ward of the court (or were a ward of the court until age 18); or
- you're a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.

If you claim to be an independent student, your school may ask you to submit proof before you can receive any federal student aid. If you think you have unusual circumstances that would make you independent even though none of the above criteria apply to you, talk to your aid administrator. He or she can change your status if he or she thinks your circumstances warrant it based on the documentation you provide. But remember, the aid administrator won't automatically do this. That decision is based on his or her judgment, and it's final—you can't appeal it to the U.S. Department of Education.

Applying



What form do I use?

If you did ***not*** apply for federal student aid for the 1995-96 school year, you can apply for federal aid for the 1996-97 school year either by completing

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

and mailing the *1996-97 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*, by applying electronically (through your school), or by using the U.S. Department of Education's new *FAFSA Express* software. You can get a *FAFSA* from your school or from the Federal Student Aid Information Center at the address given on page 3.

If you *did* apply for federal student aid for the 1995-96 school year, you probably will be able to file a *1996-97 Renewal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (Renewal FAFSA)*. You'll either receive it at your home address or from your school. (You may also be able to file a *Renewal FAFSA* electronically.) **Not all schools have electronic application capability; check with your school or the schools that interest you.**

If you qualify to use the *Renewal FAFSA*, you'll have fewer questions to answer. Most of the information on the form will be preprinted and will be the same as the information you gave in 1995-96 (plus any of your corrections that were processed). You'll only have to write in some new information and information that has changed since 1995-96 (for example, family size). Check with your aid administrator if you have questions about the *Renewal FAFSA*.

For most of the federal student aid programs, the *FAFSA (or Renewal FAFSA)* is the only form you need to file. To receive an Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Stafford Loan or a PLUS Loan, you will have to complete additional forms. (See pages 13 and 15.)

Remember, applying for federal student aid is FREE.

However, to be considered for nonfederal aid, such as institutional aid, you may have to fill out additional forms and pay a processing fee. Check with your school to see which nonfederal application to fill out, if any.

Read the instructions carefully when you complete the *FAFSA* or the *Renewal FAFSA*. Most mistakes are made because students don't follow instructions. Pay special attention to any questions on income, because most errors occur in this area.

When you apply, you should have certain records on hand. These records are listed on the application. You should save all records and all other materials used in completing the application because you may need them later to prove that the information you reported is correct. This process is called verification.

If verification is required, and you don't provide it, you won't receive aid from the SFA programs, and you might not receive aid from other sources. You should make a photocopy of your application before you submit it. This way, you have a copy of the data you submitted for your own records. So be sure you keep all documents, and that the information you report is accurate!

When do I apply?

Apply as soon **AFTER January 1, 1996** as possible. (You can't apply before this date.) It's easier to complete the application when you already have your tax return, so you may want to consider filing your taxes as early as possible. Do not sign, date, or send your application before January 1, 1996. If you apply by mail, send your completed application using the envelope that came with it. It is already addressed, and using it will ensure that your application reaches the correct address.

NOTE: You must reapply for federal aid every year. Also, if you change schools, your aid doesn't go with you. Check with your new school to find out what steps you must take to continue receiving aid.

What happens after I apply?

If you apply by mail, your application will be processed in approximately four weeks. Then, you'll receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail. The SAR will report the information from your application and, if there are no questions or

problems with your application, your Expected Family Contribution (the number used in determining your eligibility for federal student aid). Each school you listed on the application may also receive your application information if the school participates electronically.

If you apply electronically, your application will be processed in about a week. The results will be sent electronically to your school. You'll also receive a SAR in the mail.

When you receive the SAR, you must review it carefully to make sure it's correct. If any changes are necessary, your school may submit the corrections electronically, or, if you applied by mail, you may make corrections on Part 2 of the SAR and return it to the address given at the end of Part 2.

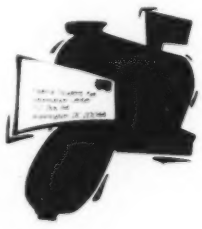
If the data are correct and you don't need to make changes, you can receive financial aid on the basis of that information. If your school has not received your application information electronically, you must take your SAR to the school.

If it's been more than four weeks since you mailed in your application and you haven't heard anything, you can check on your application by calling **1-319-337-5665** (Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time). Or, you can write to:

Federal Student Aid Information Center
P.O. Box 84
Washington, DC 20044

You can also use this phone number and address to request a duplicate copy of your SAR, or you can request a duplicate copy by writing to the address given at the end of Part 2 of the SAR. You'll receive the duplicate SAR in 2-3 weeks.

If you write, make sure you include in your letter your full name, permanent address, Social Security Number, date of birth, and signature.



Your duplicate SAR will be sent to the address you reported on your application. If your address has changed since then, you can correct your address by writing to the FAFSA processor where you sent your application or to the Federal Student Aid Information Center at the address given above. You can't change your address over the phone because your signature is required.

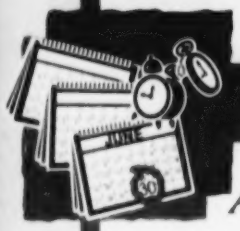
Special Circumstances

Although the process of determining a student's eligibility for federal student aid is basically the same for all applicants, there is some flexibility. For instance, if your financial aid administrator (FAA) believes it's appropriate, based on the documentation you provided, he or she can change your status from dependent to independent. (See page 3.)

In some cases, your FAA may adjust your cost of attendance (COA)* or the income information used to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) to take into account circumstances that might affect the amount you and your family are expected to contribute toward your education. These circumstances could include a family's unusual medical or dental expenses, or tuition expenses for children attending a private elementary or secondary school. Also, an adjustment may be made if you, your spouse, or either of your parents (if applicable) have been recently unemployed. If conditions such as these apply to you or your family, contact your FAA.

Check with your FAA if you feel you have any other special circumstances that might affect the amount you and your family are expected to contribute. But remember, there have to be very good reasons for the FAA to make any adjustments, and you'll have to provide adequate proof to support those adjustments. Also, remember that the FAA's decision is *final* and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.

**See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.*



Deadlines

Application Submission

Whether you apply electronically or by mail, your application must be received by the application processor by June 30, 1997 for the 1996-97 school year.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE.

Apply as soon **AFTER January 1, 1996** as you can. (Do not sign, date, or send your application before this date.) Schools often set deadlines early in the calendar year. Students must meet these deadlines to receive certain types of funds, including Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study, and Federal Perkins Loan program funds. (See page 20.)

SAR Submission

Your correct, complete application information must be at your school by your last day of enrollment in 1996-97 or by August 29,1997, whichever is earlier (see your FAA). If your school has not received your application information electronically, you must submit your SAR to the school by the appropriate deadline. Be sure you know your last day of enrollment in 1996-97—it may be earlier than August 29.

➡ *NOTE: If you're selected for verification (see page 4), additional deadlines apply to you. Your financial aid administrator can tell you what they are.*

Telephone Numbers

If you need answers right away to questions about federal student aid, call the appropriate number listed below at the Federal Student Aid Information Center between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), Monday through Friday:

1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243),
this is a toll-free number.

The Information Center will:

- assist you in completing the FAFSA
- tell you whether a school participates in the federal student aid programs, and that school's default* rate.
- explain federal student aid eligibility requirements.
- explain the process of determining financial need and awarding aid.
- send federal student aid publications to you.

1-319-337-5665

Call this number at the Information Center if you want to find out if your federal student financial aid application has been processed or if you want a copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR). Please note that you'll have to pay for this call. Collect calls cannot be accepted, and this service is not available on the toll-free number given above.

1-800-730-8913

If you're hearing-impaired you may call this toll-free TDD number at the Information Center for help with any federal student aid questions you may have.

1-800-MIS-USED (1-800-647-8733)

If you have reason to suspect any fraud, waste, or abuse involving federal student aid funds, you may call this toll-free number, which is the hotline to the U.S. Department of Education's Inspector General's office. You may remain anonymous, if you wish.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Federal Pell Grants

What is a Federal Pell Grant?

A Federal Pell Grant, unlike a loan, does not have to be repaid. Pell Grants are awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree. (A professional degree would include a degree in a field such as pharmacy or dentistry.) For many students, Pell Grants provide a foundation of financial aid to which other aid may be added.

How do I qualify?

To determine if you're eligible financially, the U.S. Department of Education uses a standard formula, established by Congress, to evaluate the information you report when you apply. (See page 2.) The formula produces an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) number. Your Student Aid Report (SAR) contains this number and will tell you if you're eligible.

How much money can I get?

Awards for the 1996-97 award year (July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997) will depend on program funding. The maximum award for the 1995-96 award year was $2,340. You can receive only one Pell Grant in an award year. How much you get will depend not only on your EFC, but on your cost of attendance,* whether you're a full-time or part-time student, and whether you attend school for a full academic year* or less. You may not receive Pell Grant funds from more than one school at a time.

How will I be paid?

Your school can either credit the Pell Grant funds to your school account, pay you directly (usually by check), or combine these methods. The school must tell you in writing how and when you'll be paid and how much your award will be. Schools must pay you at least once per term (semester, trimester, or quarter). Schools that do not use formally defined, traditional terms must pay you at least twice per academic year.*

*Can I receive a Federal Pell Grant if I am enrolled less than half time?**

Yes, if you're otherwise eligible. You won't receive as much as if you were enrolled full time, but your school must disburse your Pell Grant funds in accordance with your enrollment status and cannot refuse you an award simply because you're enrolled less than half time.*

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Federal Stafford Loans

Federal Stafford Loans (Stafford Loans) are the Department's major form of self-help aid and are available through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program. The terms and conditions of a Direct Stafford or an FFEL Stafford are similar. The major differences between the two are the source of the loan funds, some aspects of the application process, and the available repayment plans. An increasing number of schools are participating in the Direct Loan Program. Under this program, the funds for your Stafford Loan come to you directly from the U.S. Government. If your school does not participate in Direct Loans, the funds for your Stafford Loan will come to you from a bank, credit union, or other lender that participates in the FFEL Program.

The Direct and FFEL programs also offer PLUS Loans for parents of dependent students (see page 15) and Consolidation Loans (see page 18).

What kinds of Stafford Loans are available?

Stafford Loans are either subsidized or unsubsidized. A subsidized loan is awarded on the basis of financial need. (See page 2.) The federal government pays interest on the loan ("subsidizes" the loan) until you begin repayment and during authorized periods of deferment.

An unsubsidized loan is not awarded on the basis of need. You'll be charged interest from the time the loan is disbursed until it is paid in full. If you allow the interest to accumulate, it will be capitalized—that is, the interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan and will increase the amount you have to repay. If you choose to pay the interest as it accumulates, you'll repay less in the long run.

You can receive a subsidized Stafford Loan and an unsubsidized Stafford Loan for the same enrollment period.

Who can get a Stafford Loan?

If you're a regular student* enrolled in an eligible program* of study at least half time,* you may receive a Stafford Loan. You must also meet other general eligibility requirements. (See page 2.)

How much can I borrow?

If you're a dependent undergraduate student (see page 3) you can borrow up to—

- $2,625 if you're a first-year student enrolled in a program of study that is at least a full academic year;*
- $3,500 if you've completed your first year of study, and the remainder of your program is at least a full academic year;* or
- $5,500 a year if you've completed two years of study, and the remainder of your program is at least a full academic year.*

If you're an independent undergraduate student or a dependent student whose parents are unable to get a PLUS Loan (see pages 15 through 17), you can borrow up to—

- $6,625 if you're a first-year student enrolled in a program of study that is at least a full academic year* (at least $4,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized loans);
- $7,500 if you've completed your first year of study, and the remainder of your program is at least a full academic year* (at least $4,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized loans); or

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

- $10,500 a year if you've completed two years of study, and the remainder of your program is at least a full academic year* (at least $5,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized loans).

For periods of study that are less than an academic year,* the amounts you can borrow will be less than those just listed. Talk to your FAA to find out how much you can borrow.

➡ *NOTE: Stafford Loans are not made to students enrolled in programs that are less than one-third of an academic year.**

If you're a graduate student, you can borrow up to $18,500 each academic year.* (At least $10,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized Stafford loans.)

➡ *NOTE: The amounts given above are the maximum yearly amounts you can borrow in both subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford Loans. You may receive less than these yearly maximum amounts if you receive other financial aid that is used to cover a portion of your cost of attendance.**

The total debt you can have outstanding from all Stafford Loans combined is—

- $23,000 as a dependent undergraduate student;
- $46,000 as an independent undergraduate student (no more than $23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans); or
- $138,500 as a graduate or professional student (no more than $65,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans). The graduate debt limit includes any Stafford Loans received for undergraduate study.

What's the interest rate charged on these loans?

If you have a Stafford Loan that was first disbursed on or after July 1, 1994, the interest rate could change each year of repayment, but it will never exceed 8.25 percent. The interest rate is adjusted each year on July 1. You'll be notified of interest rate changes throughout the life of your loan.

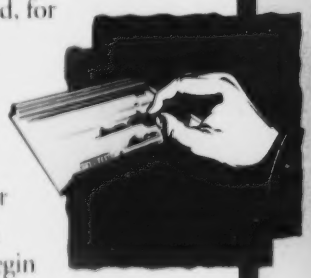
If you had Stafford Loans that were first disbursed before July 1, 1994, the interest rate on these loans may be different. Check with the lender or agency that holds your loan.

If you have subsidized loans (see page 8), the federal government pays the interest while you're enrolled in school at least half time,* during a grace period, or during authorized periods of deferment (see page 10). Interest will begin to accrue—that is, accumulate—when you enter repayment.

If you have unsubsidized loans, you'll be charged interest from the day the loan is disbursed until it is repaid in full, including in-school, grace, and deferment periods. You may choose to pay the interest during these periods or it can be capitalized (see page 8).

Is there a charge for these loans?

You'll pay fees of up to 4 percent, deducted proportionately from each disbursement of your loan. For an FFEL Stafford Loan, a portion of this fee goes to the federal government to help reduce the cost of the loans. For a Direct Stafford Loan, all of this fee goes to the government. Also, if you don't make your loan payments when they're scheduled, you may be charged collection costs and, for FFEL Stafford Loans, late fees.



When do I pay back these loans?

After you graduate, leave school, or drop below half-time* enrollment, you have six months before you begin repayment. This is called a "grace period."

During the grace period on a subsidized loan, you don't have to pay any principal, and no interest will

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

be charged. During the grace period on an unsubsidized loan, you don't have to pay any principal, but interest will be charged. You can either pay the interest or allow it to accumulate.

After you leave school or drop below half-time* enrollment, you'll receive information about repayment and will be notified of the date repayment begins. However, you're responsible for beginning repayment on time, even if you don't receive this information.

Is it ever possible to postpone repayment of my loan?

Yes. Under certain circumstances, you can receive a deferment or forbearance on your loan. A **deferment** allows you to temporarily postpone payments on your loan. If you have a subsidized loan, the federal government will pay the interest that accrues during the deferment. If your loan is unsubsidized, you will be responsible for the interest on the loan during the deferment. If you don't pay the interest as it accrues, it will be capitalized. (See page 8.) See page 26 for the list of deferments available if your loan was first disbursed on or after July 1, 1993. If your loans were disbursed prior to that date, the lender or agency holding your loans can tell you about the deferments that apply to those loans. You can't receive a deferment if your loan is in default.*

If you are temporarily unable to meet your repayment schedule, but are not eligible for a deferment, you may receive **forbearance** for a limited and specified period. During forbearance, your payments are postponed or reduced. Whether your loans are subsidized or unsubsidized, the government does not pay the interest; you are responsible for it. If you don't pay the interest as it accrues, it will be capitalized (See page 8.)

You may be granted forbearance for reasons such as:

- being unable to pay due to poor health or other unanticipated personal problems
- serving in a medical or dental internship or residency
- serving in a position under the National Community Service Trust Act of 1993
- being obligated to make payments on federal student loans that are equal to or greater than 20 percent of your monthly gross income

Deferments and forbearances are not automatic. If you have a Direct Stafford Loan, you must contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center to request either option. If you have an FFEL Program Stafford Loan, you must contact the lender or agency that holds your loan. For either program, you'll have to provide documentation to support your request. **You must continue making scheduled payments until you receive notification that the deferment or forbearance has been granted.**

Can my Stafford Loan be discharged (canceled)?

Yes, in certain circumstances. A discharge releases you from all obligation to repay the loan. A complete listing of discharge conditions is given on page 27.

Your loan can't be discharged because you didn't complete the program of study at the school (unless you were unable to complete the program because the school closed), didn't like the school or the program of study, or didn't obtain employment after completing the program of study.

Repayment assistance (not a discharge, but another way to satisfy your obligation to repay) may be available for an FFEL Stafford Loan if you serve in the military. For more information, contact your recruiting officer.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

For more information about discharge or repayment assistance, Direct Stafford Loan borrowers can contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center; FFEL Stafford Loan borrowers should contact the lender or agency that holds their loan.

Direct Stafford Loans

The processes of applying for a loan and paying funds to the borrower, as well as the methods of repayment, differ somewhat for Direct Stafford Loans and FFEL Stafford Loans.

How do I apply for a Direct Stafford Loan?

First, complete the 1996-97 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* or *Renewal FAFSA*. (See page 3.) After your *FAFSA* is processed, your school will review the results and will inform you of your loan eligibility.

Second, complete the promissory note* provided by your school or the Direct Loan Servicing Center. Remember, the promissory note* is a legal document requiring you to repay the loan. Read it carefully before you sign.

NOTE: Your school can refuse to certify your loan application, or can certify a loan for an amount less than you would otherwise be eligible for, if the school documents the reason for its action and explains the reason to you in writing. The school's decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.

How will I receive my Direct Stafford Loan?

The U.S. Department of Education will pay you through your school. In most cases, your loan will be disbursed in at least two installments; no installment can be greater than half the amount of your loan.

Examples of Typical Beginning Payments for Direct Loan Repayment Plans

Monthly and Total Payments Under Different Repayment Plans

Total Debt When Borrower Enters Repayment	Standard		Graduated		Extended		Income Contingent[1] (Income=$25,000)			
							Formula Amount[2]		Capped Amount[3]	
	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total
$2,500	$50	$3,074	$25	$4,029	$50	$3,074	$90	$2,779	$27	$3,946
5,000	61	7,359	32	8,655	55	7,893	100	6,072	55	7,893
7,500	92	11,039	53	12,982	82	11,839	110	9,837	82	11,839
10,000	123	14,718	70	19,085	97	17,463	121	14,038	110	15,785
15,000	184	22,077	105	28,628	146	26,194	142	23,607	142	24,530

Note: Payments are calculated using the maximum interest rate of 8.25%.
[1]Assumes a 5% annual income growth (Census Bureau).
[2]Under the "Formula Amount", the borrower always pays the formula amount; i.e. payback rate times income.
[3]Under the "Capped Amount", the borrower never pays more than the standard 12-year amortization amount.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

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Your loan money must first be applied to your school account (if your school has an account for you) to pay for tuition and fees, room and board, and other school charges. If loan money remains, you'll receive the funds by check or in cash, unless you give the school written permission to hold the funds until later in the enrollment period.

If you're a first-year undergraduate student and a first-time borrower, your first payment may not be disbursed until 30 days after the first day of your enrollment period. This way, you won't have to repay the loan if you don't begin classes, or if you officially withdraw during the first 30 days of classes.

How do I pay back my Direct Stafford Loan?

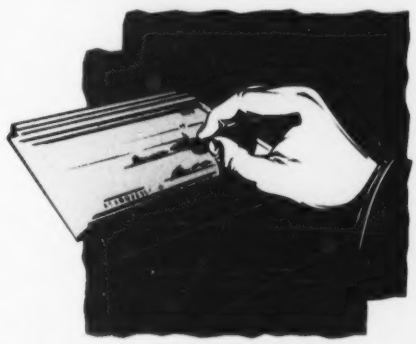
The Direct Loan Program offers four repayment plans that are available to borrowers of Direct Stafford Loans. The repayment plans will be explained in more detail during entrance and exit counseling sessions at your school. The chart on page 11 shows estimated monthly payments for various loan amounts under each of the plans.

You may choose one of the following repayment plans—

- The **Standard Repayment Plan** requires you to pay a fixed amount each month—at least $50—for up to 10 years. The length of your actual repayment period will depend on your loan amount.
- The **Extended Repayment Plan** allows you to extend loan repayment over a period that is generally 12 to 30 years, depending on your loan amount. Your monthly payment may be lower than it would be if you repaid the same total loan amount under the Standard Repayment Plan, but you'll repay a higher total amount of interest because the repayment period is longer. The minimum monthly payment is $50.
- Under the **Graduated Repayment Plan**, your payments will be lower at first and then increase every two years over a period of time generally ranging from 12 to 30 years. The actual length of your repayment period depends on your loan amount. Your monthly payment may range from 50 percent to 150 percent of what it would be if you were repaying the same total loan amount under the Standard Repayment Plan. However, you'll repay a higher total amount of interest because the repayment period is longer than it is under the Standard Repayment Plan.
- The **Income Contingent Repayment Plan** bases your monthly payment on your yearly income and your loan amount. As your income rises or falls, so do your payments. After 25 years, any remaining balance on the loan will be forgiven, but you may have to pay taxes on the amount forgiven.

Loan payments are made to the U.S. Department of Education. For more information on repayment options, write for a copy of the ***Direct Loans Repayment Book*** at the following address—

Federal Student Aid Information Center
P.O. Box 84
Washington, DC 20044



FFEL Stafford Loans

The processes of applying for a loan and paying funds to the borrower, as well as the methods of repayment, differ somewhat for Direct Stafford Loans and FFEL Stafford Loans.

How do I apply for an FFEL Stafford Loan?

First, complete the *1996-97 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* or *Renewal FAFSA*. (See page 3.) After your *FAFSA* is processed, your school will review the results and will inform you about your general loan eligibility.

Second, complete the *Federal Stafford Loan Application and Promissory Note*, available from your school, a lender, or your state guaranty agency.* Remember, the promissory note* is a legal document requiring you to repay the loan. Read it carefully before you sign.

Third, take your completed *Federal Stafford Loan Application and Promissory Note* to the school you plan to attend. After the school completes its portion of the application, you (or the school on your behalf) must send the application to a lender for evaluation.

➡ *NOTE: Your school can refuse to certify your loan application, or can certify a loan for an amount less than you would otherwise be eligible for, if the school documents the reason for its action and explains the reason to you in writing. The school's decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.*

How can I find a lender?

Contact the guaranty agency* that serves your state. For your agency's address and telephone number, and for more information about borrowing, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center's toll-free number: 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

How will I be paid?

In most cases, the lender will send the loan funds to your school in at least two payments; no payment may exceed one-half of your total loan amount. Your school can pay you directly (usually by check), credit your account, or combine these methods.

If you're a first-year undergraduate student and a first-time borrower, your first payment may not be disbursed until 30 days after the first day of your enrollment period. This way, you won't have to repay the loan if you don't begin classes, or if you officially withdraw during the first 30 days of classes.

How much will I have to repay each month?

The amount of each repayment depends on your loan amount and on the length of your repayment period. If your first FFEL Program Loan was disbursed on or after July 1, 1993, you have the option of repaying your loan using a standard, graduated or income-sensitive repayment plan, but you are required to repay the loan within 10 years.

The chart on the following page shows estimated monthly payments and total interest charges for various 8.25 percent loans under a standard repayment plan. Remember that 8.25 percent is the highest interest rate that can be charged for loans disbursed after July 1, 1993. Your rate may be lower.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Examples of Typical Payments for Standard Repayment Plan at 8.25% Interest

Total Loan Amount	Number of Payments	Monthly Payment	Interest Charges	Total Repaid
$ 2,600	65	$ 50.00	$ 628.42	$ 3,228.42
4,000	120	50.00	1,827.30	5,827.30
7,500	120	91.99	3,538.80	11,038.80
10,000	120	122.65	4,718.00	14,718.00
15,000	120	183.98	7,077.60	22,077.60

PLUS Loans (Loans for Parents)

Federal PLUS Loans (PLUS Loans) enable parents with good credit histories to borrow to pay the education expenses of each child who is a dependent undergraduate student enrolled at least half time.* (See page 3.) PLUS Loans are available through both the Direct Loan and FFEL programs. Most of the benefits to parent borrowers are identical in the two programs.

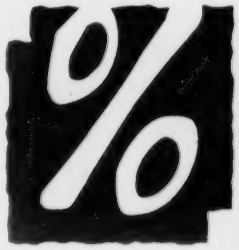
Are there any borrowing requirements my parents have to meet?

Yes. To be eligible to receive a PLUS Loan, your parents generally will be required to pass a credit check. If they don't pass the credit check, they might still be able to receive a loan if someone, such as a relative or friend who is able to pass the credit check, agrees to endorse the loan, promising to repay it if your parents should fail to do so. Your parents might also qualify for a loan even if they don't pass the credit check if they can demonstrate that extenuating circumstances exist. You must meet the general eligibility requirements for federal student financial aid. (See page 2.) Your parents must also meet some of these general requirements. For example, your parents must meet citizenship* requirements and may not be in default* or owe a refund to any SFA program.

How much can my parents borrow?

The yearly limit on either type of PLUS Loan is equal to your cost of attendance* minus any other financial aid you receive. For example, if your cost of attendance* is $6,000 and you receive $4,000 in other financial aid, your parents could borrow up to—but no more than—$2,000.

What's the interest rate on PLUS Loans?



The interest rate is variable, but it will never exceed 9 percent. The interest rate is adjusted each year on July 1. Your parents will be notified of interest rate changes throughout the life of their loan(s). Interest is charged on the loan from the date the first disbursement is made until the loan is paid in full.

Is there a charge for a PLUS Loan?

Your parents will pay a fee of up to 4 percent of the loan, deducted proportionately each time a loan payment is made. For an FFEL PLUS Loan, a portion of this fee goes to the federal government to help reduce the cost of the loans. For a Direct PLUS Loan, all of this fee goes to the government. Also, if your parents don't make their loan payments when they're scheduled, they may be charged collection costs and, for FFEL PLUS Loans, late fees.

When do my parents begin repaying a PLUS Loan?

Generally, within 60 days after the final loan disbursement. There is no grace period for these loans. This means that interest begins to accumulate at the time the first disbursement is made. Your parents must begin repaying both principal and interest while you're in school.

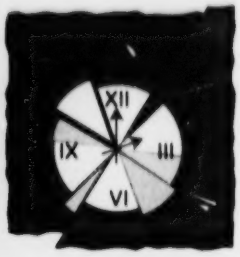
Is it ever possible to postpone repayment of a PLUS Loan?

Yes. Under certain circumstances, your parents can receive a deferment or forbearance on their loan. Deferment and forbearance are explained on page 10. The conditions for eligibility and procedures

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

for requesting a deferment or forbearance that apply to Stafford Loans also apply to PLUS Loans. However, since all PLUS Loans are unsubsidized, your parents will be charged interest during periods of deferment or forbearance. If they do not pay the interest as it accrues, it will be capitalized.

Can a PLUS Loan be discharged (canceled)?



Yes, under certain circumstances. A discharge releases your parents from all obligation to repay the loan. A complete listing of discharge conditions is given on page 27.

Your parents' loan cannot be discharged because you didn't complete your program of study at your school (unless you were unable to complete the program because the school closed), didn't like the school or the program of study, or didn't obtain employment after completing the program of study.

Repayment assistance (not a discharge of the loan, but another way to satisfy their obligation to repay), may be available to your parents for an FFEL PLUS Loan if **you** serve in the military. For more information, contact your recruiting officer.

For more information about loan discharge or repayment, Direct PLUS Loan borrowers should contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center; FFEL PLUS Loan borrowers should contact the lenders or agencies that hold their loans.

Direct PLUS Loans

The processes of applying for a loan and paying funds to the borrower, as well as the repayment plans offered, differ somewhat between the Direct PLUS Loan and the FFEL PLUS Loan.

How do my parents apply for a Direct PLUS Loan?

Your parents must fill out a *Direct PLUS Loan Application and Promissory Note*, which is available from your school's financial aid office. (It is not necessary for you or your parents to fill out a *FAFSA* to apply for this loan, unless your school requires it.)

➨ *NOTE: Your school can refuse to certify your parents' loan application, or can certify a loan for an amount less than they would otherwise be eligible for, if the school documents the reason for its action and explains the reason to your parents in writing. The school's decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.*

Do my parents need to find a lender?

No. Under the Direct Loan Program, their lender will be the U.S. Department of Education. Your school assists the federal government in administering the Direct Loan Program by distributing the loan application, processing the loan, and delivering the loan funds.

How will my parents be paid?

In most case, the loan money will be sent to your school in at least two installments (no installment can be greater than half the loan amount). The funds will first be applied to your school account (if your school has an account for you) to pay for tuition and fees, room and board, and other school charges. If any loan money remains, your parents will receive the amount as a check or in cash, unless they authorize it to be released to you or to be put in your school account. Any remaining loan money must be used for your education expenses.

How do my parents pay back the loan?

Your parents can choose the Standard, Extended, or Graduated Repayment Plan. (See page 12.) The Income Contingent Repayment Plan is not an option for Direct PLUS borrowers.

FFEL PLUS Loans

The processes of applying for a loan and paying funds to the borrower, as well as the repayment plans offered, differ somewhat between the FFEL PLUS Loan and the Direct PLUS Loan.

How do my parents apply for an FFEL PLUS Loan?

Your parents must submit a completed PLUS loan application (available from your school, a lender, or your state guaranty agency*) to your school. After the school completes its portion of the application, it must be sent to a lender for evaluation. Because your financial need does not have to be evaluated, you do not need to file a FAFSA, unless your school requires it. (See page 3.)

➨ *NOTE: Your school can refuse to certify your parents' loan application, or can certify a loan for an amount less than they would otherwise be eligible for, if the school documents the reason for its action and explains the reason to your parents in writing. The school's decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.*

How can my parents find a lender?

You parents should contact the guaranty agency* that serves your state. For your agency's address and telephone number, and for more information about borrowing, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center's toll-free number: 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

How will my parents be paid?

In most cases, the lender will send the loan funds to your school in at least two payments; no one payment may exceed half of the loan amount. Payments will be sent either by electronic funds transfer or by check made co-payable to your school and your parents.

How do my parents pay back the loan?

The lender will arrange a repayment schedule, providing for a minimum of $600 to be paid annually and a maximum repayment period of 10 years (excluding periods of deferment and forbearance).

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Consolidation Loans

Consolidation loans allow a borrower to combine different types of federal student loans to simplify repayment. (A borrower with just one loan can also choose to consolidate it.) Both the Direct Loan Program and the FFEL Program offer consolidation loans. However, Direct Consolidation Loans and FFEL Consolidation Loans are very different and are discussed separately here.

Direct Consolidation Loans

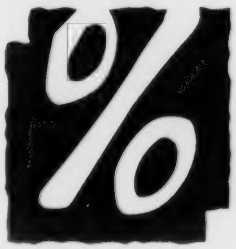
A Direct Consolidation Loan is designed to help student and parent borrowers simplify loan repayment. Even though you might have several different federal student loans, you'll make only one payment a month for all the loans you consolidate. You can even consolidate just one loan into a Direct Consolidation Loan, to get benefits such as flexible repayment options.

What kinds of loans can be consolidated under a Direct Consolidation Loan?

Most federal student loans and PLUS Loans (including FFEL program loans) can be consolidated. All the loans discussed in the *Guide* are eligible for consolidation. The Direct Loan Servicing Center can give you a complete listing of eligible loans. The toll-free telephone number of the Servicing Center's Consolidation Department is **1-800-848-0982**.

There are three types of Direct Consolidation Loans—

- **Direct Subsidized Consolidation Loans**
- **Direct Unsubsidized Consolidation Loans**
- **Direct PLUS Consolidation Loans**



What is the interest rate on a Direct Consolidation Loan?

For Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Consolidation Loans, the interest rate is variable but cannot exceed 8.25 percent. For Direct PLUS Consolidation Loans, the interest rate is also variable and may not exceed 9 percent. These interest rates are adjusted each year on July 1.

What are the benefits of a Direct Consolidation Loan?

If you have more than one loan, a Direct Consolidation Loan **simplifies the repayment process**, because you make only one payment a month. Also, the interest rate on the Direct Consolidation Loan may be lower than what you're currently paying on one or more of your loans.

Another advantage of a Direct Consolidation Loan is that you may gain **additional deferment possibilities**. An FFEL borrower who consolidates using a Direct Consolidation Loan is eligible for all the deferments available to Direct Loan borrowers, in addition to all the deferments the borrower was eligible for under the FFEL Program.

If you're in default* on a federal student loan, you may receive a Direct Consolidation Loan provided you agree to repay the defaulted loan under the Income Contingent Repayment Plan or make satisfactory repayment arrangements (that is, three voluntary, on-time, full monthly payments).

A Direct Consolidation Loan gives the borrower **expanded repayment options**, because all the Direct Loan repayment plans are available to borrowers of Direct Consolidation Loans. However, Direct PLUS Consolidation Loans are not

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

eligible to be repaid under the Income Contingent Repayment Plan. Also, if you consolidate one loan, you cannot select the Standard Repayment Plan.

How can I get a Direct Consolidation Loan?

You can get a Direct Consolidation Loan during your grace period, once you have entered repayment, or, in some cases, while you're still enrolled in school. You'll be given more information about consolidation loans during entrance and exit counseling sessions at your school. You may also contact the Servicing Center's Consolidation Department at 1-800-848-0982 for an application or more information.

FFEL Consolidation Loans

An FFEL Consolidation Loan is designed to help student and parent borrowers consolidate several types of federal student loans with various repayment schedules into one loan. With an FFEL Consolidation Loan, you'll make only one payment a month. FFEL Consolidation Loans are available from participating lenders, such as banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations.

What kinds of loans can be consolidated under an FFEL Consolidation Loan?

Most federal student loans and FFEL PLUS Loans can be consolidated. Most of the loans discussed in the *Guide* are eligible for consolidation; Direct Loans **may not** be consolidated under an FFEL Consolidation Loan. A participating lender can give you a complete listing of eligible loans.

There are two types of FFEL Consolidation Loans—subsidized and unsubsidized. If all of the loans you consolidate are subsidized, you'll receive a subsidized FFEL Consolidation Loan. If any loan you consolidate is unsubsidized, you'll receive an unsubsidized FFEL Consolidation Loan.

What's the interest rate on an FFEL Consolidation Loan?

The interest rate for your FFEL Consolidation Loan will be the weighted average of the original interest rates of the loans being consolidated rounded up to the nearest whole percent.

What are the benefits of an FFEL Consolidation Loan?

If you have more than one loan, an FFEL Consolidation Loan simplifies the repayment process, because you make only one payment a month. Also, the interest rate on the FFEL Consolidation Loan may be lower than what you're currently paying on one or more of your loans.

How can I get an FFEL Consolidation Loan?

You can consolidate any loans that have entered repayment or that are in a grace period. If any loan you want to consolidate is in default,* you must make satisfactory repayment arrangements on that loan before it can be included in the consolidation (that is, three voluntary, on-time, full monthly payments).

You'll be given more information about consolidation during entrance and exit counseling sessions at your school. You may also contact the consolidation department of a participating lender for an application or more information.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Campus-Based Programs

The three programs discussed in this section are called campus-based programs because they're administered directly by the financial aid office at each participating school. Not all schools participate in all three programs. The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program awards grants, the Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program offers jobs, and the Federal Perkins Loan Program offers loans. Even though each program is different, they have these characteristics in common:

- How much aid you receive depends on your financial need (see page 2), on the amount of other aid you'll receive, and on the availability of funds at your school. Unlike the Federal Pell Grant Program, which provides funds to every eligible student, each school participating in any of the campus-based programs receives a certain amount of funds for each campus-based program each year. When that money is gone, no more awards can be made from that program for that year.
- Each school sets its own deadlines for students to apply for campus-based funds. The deadlines will usually be earlier than the U.S. Department of Education's deadline for filing a federal student financial aid application (in this case, June 30, 1997). Ask your FAA about the school's deadlines. You may miss out on aid from these programs if you don't apply early!

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants

What is a Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant?

A Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) is for undergraduates with exceptional financial need, that is, students with the lowest Expected Family Contributions (EFCs), and gives priority to students who receive Federal Pell Grants. An FSEOG doesn't have to be paid back.

What's the difference between an FSEOG and a Federal Pell Grant?

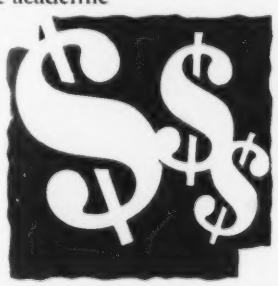
The U.S. Department of Education guarantees that each participating school will receive enough money to pay the Federal Pell Grants of its eligible students. There's no guarantee every eligible student will be able to receive a FSEOG; students at each school are paid based on the availability of funds.

How much can I get?

You can get between $100 and $4,000 a year, depending on when you apply, your level of need, and the funding level of the school you're attending.

How will I be paid?

Your school will credit your account, pay you directly (usually by check), or combine these methods. Schools must pay students at least once per term (semester, trimester, or quarter). Generally, schools that do not use traditional terms must pay you at least twice during the academic year.*



*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Federal Work-Study

What is Federal Work-Study?

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program provides jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to your course of study.

How much can I make?

Your FWS salary will be at least the current federal minimum wage, but it may be higher, depending on the type of work you do and the skills required. Your total FWS award depends on when you apply, your level of need, and the funding level of your school.

How will I be paid?

If you're an undergraduate, you'll be paid by the hour. If you're a graduate student, you may be paid by the hour or you may receive a salary. No FWS student may be paid by commission or fee. Your school must pay you directly at least once a month.

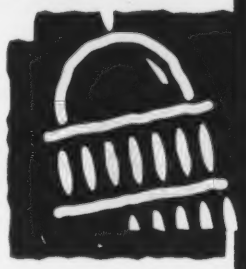
Are Federal Work-Study jobs on campus or off campus?

Both. If you work on campus, you'll usually work for your school. If you work off campus, your employer will usually be a private nonprofit organization or a public agency, and the work performed must be in the public interest. Some schools may have agreements with private for-profit employers for FWS jobs, which must be relevant to your course of study. If you attend a proprietary school, there may be further restrictions on the jobs you can be assigned.

Can I work as many hours as I want?

No, the amount you earn can't exceed your total FWS award. When assigning work hours, your employer or FAA will consider your class schedule and your academic progress.

Federal Perkins Loans



What is a Federal Perkins Loan?

A Federal Perkins Loan is a low-interest (5 percent) loan for both undergraduate and graduate students with exceptional financial need. Your school is your lender and the loan is made with government funds. You must repay this loan to your school.

How much can I borrow?

Depending on when you apply, your level of need, and the funding level of the school, you can borrow up to—

- $3,000 for each year of undergraduate study. The total amount you can borrow as an undergraduate is $15,000.
- $5,000 for each year of graduate or professional study. The total amount you can borrow as a graduate/professional student is $30,000. (This includes any Federal Perkins Loans you borrowed as an undergraduate.)

Is there a charge for this loan?

A Perkins Loan borrower is not charged an origination fee or an insurance premium. However, if you skip a payment, make a payment late, or make less than a full payment, you may have to pay a late charge plus any collection costs. Late charges will continue until your payments are current.

How will I be paid?

Your school will either pay you directly (usually by check) or credit your account. Generally, you'll receive the loan in at least two payments during the academic year.*

When do I pay back this loan?

If you're attending school at least half time,* you have nine months after you graduate, leave school, or drop below half-time* status before you must begin repayment. This is called a grace period. If you're attending less than half time,* check with your FAA to determine your grace period. At the end of your grace period, you must begin repaying your loan. You may be allowed up to 10 years to repay.

How much will I have to repay each month?

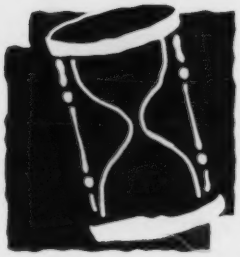
Your monthly payment amount will depend on the size of your debt and the length of your repayment period.

The chart below shows typical monthly payments and total interest charges for three different 5-percent loans over a 10-year period.

Examples of Typical Payments for Perkins Loan Repayment

Total Loan Amount	Number of Payments	Monthly Payment	Total Interest Charges	Total Repaid
$3,000	119 1	$31.84 $28.90	$817.86	$3,817.86
$5,000	119 1	$53.06 $49.26	$1,363.40	$6,363.40
$15,000	119 1	$159.16 $150.81	$4,090.85	$19,090.85

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.



Can I postpone repayment of my Federal Perkins Loan?

Yes. Under certain circumstances, you can receive a deferment or forbearance on your loan. During a **deferment**, you are allowed to temporarily postpone payments on your loan, and no interest accrues. You may receive a deferment under certain conditions, such as unemployment. See page 26 for the list of deferments available if your Perkins Loan was disbursed on or after July 1, 1993. If you have a loan that was disbursed before July 1, 1993, check your promissory note* for the deferments that apply to that loan.

Deferments are not automatic. You must apply for one through your school, using a deferment request form your school can give you. You must file your deferment request on time or you'll pay a late charge. For more detail on deferments, contact your financial aid office.

If you are temporarily unable to meet your repayment schedule, but are not eligible for a deferment, you may receive **forbearance** for a limited and specific period. During forbearance, your payments are postponed or reduced. Interest continues to accrue; you are responsible for it.

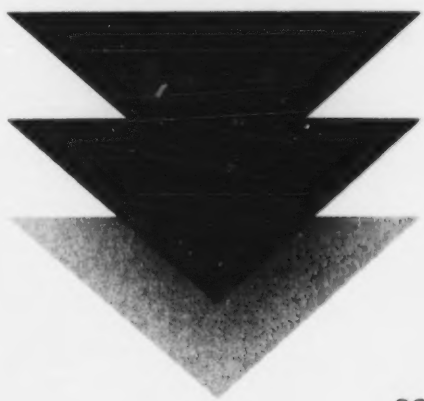
Forbearance isn't automatic either. You may be granted forbearance in up to 12-month intervals for up to three years. You must apply for forbearance in writing through the school that made your loan or the agency the school employs to service your loan. You'll have to provide documentation to support your request for forbearance. **You must continue making scheduled payments until you are notified that deferment or forbearance has been granted.**

Can my Federal Perkins Loan be canceled?

Yes. If the borrower dies or becomes totally and permanently disabled, the loan can be canceled. A loan may also qualify for cancellation under certain other conditions—as long as the borrower is not in default.* See page 27 for the list of cancellation conditions. For more information, contact your financial aid office.

Although not a cancellation, if you serve as an enlisted person in certain specialties of the U.S. Army, the Army Reserves, the Army National Guard, or the Air National Guard, the U.S. Department of Defense may, as an enlistment incentive, repay a portion of your Federal Perkins Loan. If you think you qualify, contact your recruiting officer.

If you have any questions about the terms of your Federal Perkins Loan, repayment obligations, deferment, forbearance, or cancellation, check with the school that made the loan. Only that school can grant deferment, forbearance, or cancellation, or make other decisions concerning your loan.



*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Borrower Responsibilities, Borrower Rights

Responsibilities

When you take out a student loan, you have certain responsibilities. Here are a few of them:

- When you sign a promissory note,* you're agreeing to repay the loan according to the terms of the note. The note is a binding legal document and states that, except in cases of discharge, (see page 27) you must repay the loan—even if you don't complete your education, aren't able to get a job after you complete the program, or are dissatisfied with, or don't receive, the education you paid for. Think about what this obligation means before you take out a loan. If you don't repay your loan on time or according to the terms in your promissory note,* you may go into default,* which has very serious consequences.
- You must make payments on your loan even if you don't receive a bill or repayment notice. Billing statements (or coupon books) are sent to you as a convenience, but you're obligated to make payments even if you don't receive any notice.
- If you apply for a deferment or forbearance, you must continue to make payments until you are notified that the request has been granted. If you don't, you may end up in default.* You should keep a copy of any request form you submit, and you should document all contacts with the organization that holds your loan.
- You must notify the appropriate representative (school, agency, lender, or the Direct Loan Servicing Center) that manages your loan when you graduate, withdraw from school, or drop below half-time* status; change your name, address, or Social Security Number; or transfer to another school. If you borrow a Perkins Loan, your loan will be managed by the school that lends you the money or by an agency that the school assigns to service the loan. If you borrow a Direct Loan, it will be managed by the Direct Loan Servicing Center. If you borrow an FFEL Program Loan, it will be managed by your lender or its servicing agent. During your loan counseling session, you'll be given the name of the representative that manages your loan.
- Regardless of the type of loan you borrow, you must receive entrance counseling before you're given your first loan disbursement, and you must receive exit counseling before you leave school. These counseling sessions will be administered by your school and will provide you with important information about your loan. Your lender or the Direct Loan Servicing Center will provide you with additional information about your loan.

Rights

You have certain rights as a borrower. Listed below are some of them.

Before your school makes your first loan disbursement, you'll receive the following information about your loan from your school, lender, and/or the Direct Loan Servicing Center:

- the full amount of the loan;
- the interest rate;
- when you must start repaying the loan;

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

- the effect borrowing will have on your eligibility for other types of financial aid;
- a complete list of any charges you must pay (loan fees) and information on how those charges are collected;
- the yearly and total amounts you can borrow;
- the maximum repayment periods and the minimum repayment amount;
- an explanation of default* and its consequences;
- an explanation of available options for consolidating or refinancing your loan; and
- a statement that you can prepay your loan at any time without penalty.

Before you leave school, you'll receive the following information about your loan from your school, lender, and/or the Direct Loan Servicing Center:

- the amount of your total debt (principal and estimated interest), what your interest rate is, and the total interest charges on your loan;
- if you have FFEL Program Loans, the name of the lender or agency that holds your loan, where to send your payments, and where to write or call if you have questions;
- if you have Direct Loans, the address and telephone number of your Direct Loan Servicing Center;
- the fees you should expect during the repayment period, such as late charges and collection or litigation costs if you're delinquent or in default;*
- an explanation of available options for consolidating or refinancing your loan; and
- a statement that you can prepay your loan without penalty at any time.

If you borrow a Federal Perkins Loan, the previous information will be provided to you by your school. If you borrow a Direct Loan or an FFEL Program Loan, this information will be provided to you by the Direct Loan Servicing Center or your lender, as appropriate.

If you have Direct or FFEL Stafford loans, your school will also provide you with the following information during your exit counseling session:

- a current description of your loans, including the average monthly anticipated payments of students from your school;
- a description of applicable deferment, forbearance, and discharge provisions;
- repayment options;
- advice about debt management that will help you in making your payments; and
- notification that you must provide your expected permanent address, the name and address of your expected employer, the address of your next-of-kin, and any corrections to your school's records concerning your name, Social Security Number, references, and driver's license number (if you have one).

You have the right to a grace period before your repayment period begins. (Your parents do not receive a grace period for a PLUS Loan.) Your grace period begins when you leave school or drop below half-time* status. The exact length of your grace period is shown on your promissory note.*

During exit counseling, your school, lender, and/or the Direct Loan Servicing Center as appropriate must give you a loan repayment schedule that states when your first payment is due, the number and frequency of payments, and the amount of each payment.

**See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.*

You must be given a summary of deferment and discharge (cancellation) provisions, including the conditions under which the Department of Defense may repay your loan.

If you or your parents borrow an FFEL Program Loan, you must be notified when your loan is sold if the sale results in your making payments to a new lender or agency. Both the old and new lender or agency must notify you of the sale; the identity of the new lender or agency holding your loan; the address to which you must make payments; and the telephone numbers of both the old and new lender or agency. (This doesn't apply to Perkins or Direct Loan borrowers.)

Loan Deferment Summary

Deferment Condition	Direct Loans[1,2]	FFEL Program Loans[1,3]	Perkins[4]
At least half-time study at a postsecondary school	YES	YES	YES
Study in an approved graduate fellowship program or in an approved rehabilitation training program for the disabled	YES	YES	YES
Unable to find full-time employment	Up to 3 years	Up to 3 Years	Up to 3 Years
Economic Hardship	Up to 3 Years	Up to 3 Years	Up to 3 Years
Engaged in service listed under discharge/cancellation conditions (see page 27)	NO	NO	YES

[1] For PLUS Loans and unsubsidized student loans, only principal is deferred. Interest continues to accrue.

[2] Direct Loan borrowers who have outstanding balances on FFEL loans disbursed prior to July 1993 will be eligible for additional deferments.

[3] Applies to loans first disbursed on or after July 1,1993 to borrowers who have no outstanding FFEL Program Loan, Federal SLS loan, or consolidation loan on the date they signed their promissory note. (Note that the SLS Program has been repealed, beginning with the 1994-95 award year.)

[4] Applies to loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 1993.

NOTE: You must formally request a deferment, through the procedures established by the holder of your loan, and you must continue making payments until you're notified that the deferment has been granted.

Discharge/Cancellation Summary

Cancellation Condition	Direct Loans	FFEL Program Loans	Perkins
Borrower's total and permanent disability or death	100%[1]	100%[1]	100%
Full-time teacher in a designated elementary or secondary school serving students from low-income families	NO	NO[3]	Up to 100%[2]
Full-time special education teacher—includes teaching children with disabilities in a public or other nonprofit elementary or secondary school	NO	NO	Up to 100%[2]
Full-time qualified professional provider of early intervention services for the disabled	NO	NO	Up to 100%[2]
Full-time teacher of math, science, foreign languages, bilingual education, or in other fields designated as teacher shortage areas	NO[3]	NO[3]	Up to 100%[2]
Full-time employee of a public or nonprofit child or family service agency providing services to high-risk children and their families from low-income communities	NO	NO	Up to 100%[2]
Full-time nurse or medical technician	NO	NO[3]	Up to 100%[2]
For loans made on or after November 29, 1990—service as a full-time law enforcement or corrections officer	NO	NO	Up to 100%[2]
Full-time service as a staff member in the educational component of a Head Start Program	NO	NO	Up to 100%[2]
Service as a Vista or Peace Corps Volunteer	NO[3]	NO[3]	Up to 70%[2]
Service in the Armed Forces	NO	NO	Up to 50% in areas of hostilities or eminent danger[2]
Bankruptcy	In some cases[5]	In some cases[5]	In some cases[5]
Closed School (before student could complete program of study) or False Loan Certification	100%[6]	100%[6]	NO

[1] Includes death but not disability of the student for whom the parents borrowed—this additional provision applies to any such student who dies on or after July 23,1992.
[2] Service qualifies for deferment also.
[3] No funding available for this benefit at this time. Does not apply to PLUS Loans.
[4] This benefit applies to Federal Perkins loans made on or after July 23, 1992.
[5] Seven years must have passed between the date the loan became due and the date the borrower files for bankruptcy (not counting deferment periods). If seven years have not passed, cancellation is possible only if the bankruptcy court rules that repayment would cause undue hardship.
[6] For loans received on or after January 1, 1986.
[7] Service qualifies for deferment also for loans made on or after July 1, 1993.

Choosing a School Carefully

Education after high school costs you time, money, and effort. It's a big investment, and you should carefully evaluate the school you're considering. Just because a school participates in the federal student aid programs does not mean the U. S. Department of Education has endorsed the quality of the education the school offers. The Department does not approve a school's curriculum, policies, or administrative practices, except as they relate to how the school operates the federal student financial aid programs. It's up to you to check out the school. To find out about a school, you need to—

- **ask the school for a copy of the documents describing the school's accreditation and licensing.** The accrediting and licensing agencies have evaluated the school and found it meets certain minimum requirements that the agencies have set.
- **ask the school about its loan default* rate** (the percentage of students who attended the school, took out federal student loans, and later went into default*). There may be some restrictions on borrowing under the Federal Perkins Loan Program and the FFEL Program if a school has a high default* rate.
- **ask the school for its job placement rate.** If the school advertises its job placement rates, it must also publish the most recent employment statistics, graduation statistics, and any other information necessary to back up its claims. This information must be available at, or before, the time you apply for admission to the school.
- **ask the financial aid office about the school's refund policy.** If you enroll but never begin classes, you should get most of your money back. If you begin attending classes, but leave before completing your coursework, you may be able to get part of your money back. Keep in mind that if you receive federal student aid from any of the programs mentioned in the *Guide* – except for Federal Work-Study – and a refund is made, some or all of that money will be returned directly to those aid programs or to the lender for your loans.

➡ *NOTE: Even if you don't finish your coursework, you'll have to repay the loan funds you received, less any amount returned to your lender by the school.*

- **find out about financial aid availability.** You have the right to receive the following information from the school—

  ➢ the financial assistance that is available, including information on all federal, state, local, private, and institutional financial aid programs.

  ➢ the procedures and deadlines for submitting applications for each available financial aid program.

  ➢ how a school selects financial aid recipients.

  ➢ how the school determines your financial need.

  ➢ how the school determines each type and amount of assistance in your financial aid package.*

  ➢ how and when you'll receive your aid.

  ➢ how the school determines whether you're making satisfactory academic progress,* and what happens if you're not. Whether you

**See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.*

continue to receive federal financial aid depends, in part, on whether you make satisfactory academic progress.*

➢ if you're offered a Federal Work-Study job (see page 21), what the job is, what hours you must work, what your duties will be, what the rate of pay will be, and how and when you'll be paid.

➢ the location, hours, and counseling procedures of the school's financial aid office.

■ **talk to high school counselors, local employers, and the state higher education agency.** See if any complaints about the school have been filed with the local Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, or consumer protection division of the state attorney general's office. Contact these organizations if you have a complaint about a school.

You're paying for a quality education. Make sure you get it.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Important Terms

Academic Year: A period of time schools use to measure a quantity of study. For example, a school's academic year may consist of a fall and spring semester, during which a student must complete 24 semester hours. Academic years vary from school to school, and even from educational program to educational program at the same school.

Citizen/Eligible Noncitizen: You must be one of the following to receive federal student aid:

- U.S. citizen
- U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swain's Island)
- U.S. permanent resident who has an I-151, I-551, or I-551C (Alien Registration Receipt Card)

If you're not in one of these categories, you must have an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) showing one of the following designations in order to be eligible :

- "Refugee"
- "Asylum Granted"
- "Indefinite Parole" and/or "Humanitarian Parole"
- "Cuban-Haitian Entrant, Status Pending"
- "Conditional Entrant" (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
- Other eligible noncitizen with a Temporary Resident Card (I-688)

Or you can be eligible based on the Family Unity Status category with an approved I-797 (Voluntary Departure and Immigrant Petition).

If you have only a Notice of Approval to Apply for Permanent Residence (I-171 or I-464), you aren't eligible for federal student aid.

If you're in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa only, or on a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa only, you can't get federal student aid. Also, persons with G series visas (pertaining to international organizations) are not eligible for federal student aid.

➡ *NOTE: Citizens and eligible noncitizens may also receive loans from the FFEL and Direct Loan Programs at participating foreign schools.*

Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Palau are eligible only for Federal Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), or Federal Work-Study (FWS). These applicants should check with their financial aid administrators for more information.

Cost of Attendance (COA): The total amount it will cost a student to go to school—usually expressed as a yearly figure. It is determined using rules established by the U.S. Congress. The COA includes tuition and fees; on-campus room and board (or a housing and food allowance for off-campus students); and allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees (if applicable), dependent care, costs related to a disability, and miscellaneous expenses. Also included are reasonable costs for eligible study abroad programs. An allowance (determined by the school) is included for reasonable costs connected with a student's employment as part of a cooperative education program. For students attending less than half time,* the COA includes only tuition and fees and an allowance for books, supplies, transportation, and dependent-care expenses. Talk to the FAA at the school you're planning to attend if you have any unusual expenses that might affect your cost of attendance.

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.

Default: Failure to repay a loan according to the terms agreed to when you signed a promissory note.* Default also may result from failure to submit requests for deferment or cancellation on time. If you default, your school, the lender or agency that holds your loan, the state, and the federal government can all take action to recover the money, including notifying national credit bureaus of your default. This may affect your credit rating for a long time. For example, you may find it very difficult to borrow from a bank to buy a car or a house.

In addition, the lender or agency holding your loan may ask your employer to deduct payments from your paycheck. Also, you may be liable for expenses incurred in collecting the loan. If you decide to return to school, you're not entitled to receive any more federal student aid or any of the deferments listed on page 26. The U.S. Department of Education may ask the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to withhold your income tax refund, and the amount of your refund will be applied toward the amount you owe.

Eligible Program: A course of study that leads to a degree or certificate and meets the U.S. Department of Education's requirements for an eligible program. To get federal financial aid, you must be enrolled in an eligible program, with two exceptions:

- If a school has told you that you must take certain coursework to qualify for admission into one of its eligible programs, you can get a Direct Loan or an FFEL Program Loan (or your parents can get a PLUS Loan) for up to 12 consecutive months while you're completing that coursework. You must be enrolled at least half time,* and you must meet the usual student aid eligibility requirements.
- If you're enrolled at least half time* in a program to obtain a professional credential or certification required by a state for employment as an elementary or secondary school teacher, you can get a Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study, an FFEL Stafford Loan, a Direct Loan (or your parents can get a PLUS Loan) while you're enrolled in that program.

Financial Aid Package: The total amount of financial aid (federal and nonfederal) a student receives.

General Education Development Certificate (GED): A certificate students receive if they've passed a specific, approved high school equivalency test. Students who don't have a high school diploma but who have a GED may still qualify for federal student aid. A school that admits students without a high school diploma must make a GED program in the vicinity of the school available to these students and must inform them about the program.

Guaranty Agency: The organization that administers the FFEL Program for your state. The federal government sets loan limits and interest rates, but each state is free to set its own additional limitations, within federal guidelines. This agency is the best source of information on FFEL Program Loans in your state. To find out the name, address, and telephone number of the agency serving your state, as well as information about borrowing, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

Half Time: At schools measuring progress by credit hours and semesters, trimesters, or quarters, half-time enrollment is at least 6 semester hours or quarter hours per term. At schools measuring progress by credit hours but not using semesters, trimesters, or quarters, half-time enrollment is at least 12 semester hours or 18 quarter hours per year. At schools measuring progress by clock hours, half-time enrollment is at least 12 hours per week. Note that schools may choose to set higher minimums than these.

**See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.*

You must be attending school at least half time to be eligible to receive Direct or FFEL Program loans. Half-time enrollment is not a requirement to receive aid from the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study (FWS), and Federal Perkins Loan programs.

Promissory Note: The binding legal document you sign when you get a student loan. It lists the conditions under which you're borrowing and the terms under which you agree to pay back the loan. It will include information about your interest rate and about deferment and cancellation provisions. It's very important to read and save this document because you'll need to refer to it later when you begin repaying your loan.

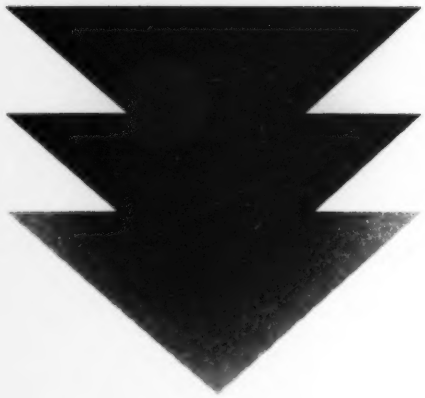
Regular Student: One who is enrolled in an institution to obtain a degree or certificate. Generally, to receive aid from the programs discussed in this booklet, you must be a regular student. (For some programs, there are exceptions to this requirement. See the definition of eligible program.*)

Satisfactory Academic Progress: To be eligible to receive federal student aid, you must maintain satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate. You must meet your school's written standard of satisfactory progress. Check with your school to find out its standard.

If you received federal student aid for the first time on or after July 1, 1987, and you're enrolled in a program that's longer than two years, the following definition of satisfactory progress also applies to you: You must have a "C" average by the end of your second academic year* of study or have an academic standing consistent with your institution's graduation requirements. You must continue to maintain satisfactory academic progress for the rest of your course of study.

Selective Service Registration: If required by law, you must register, or arrange to register, with the Selective Service to receive federal student aid. The requirement to register applies to males who were born on or after January 1, 1960, are at least 18 years old, are citizens or eligible noncitizens,* and are not currently on active duty in the armed forces. (Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau are exempt from registering.)

*See "Important Terms," pages 30 to 32.



The Student Guide is Free.

If you paid for a copy of this publication, please write to the following address and give us the name and address of the organization that charged you.

Federal Student Aid Information Center

P.O. Box 84

Washington, DC 20044-0084

The Student Guide is also available online, on the Department of Education's World Wide Web site through the Internet.

The site address is: http://www.ed.gov

Printed on Recycled Paper

ED/OPE 95-16

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

1996-97 School Year

Form Approved
OMB No. 1840-0110
App. Exp. 6/30/97

U.S. Department of Education
Student Financial Assistance Programs

If you were in college last year and meet certain conditions, you will receive a renewal application in the mail or from your school early in 1996. You must use either the Renewal FAFSA or this Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for aid from Federal student financial aid programs.

You can also use the Renewal FAFSA or this FAFSA to apply for most state and some private aid, although certain state and private aid programs may require an additional form. To find out more about which forms to use, contact your high school counselor, college financial aid office, or state scholarship/grant agency.

Be sure to read INFORMATION ON THE PRIVACY ACT AND USE OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER on page 12.

WARNING: You must fill out this form accurately. The information that you supply can be verified by your college, your state, or by the U.S. Department of Education.

You may be asked to provide U.S. income tax returns, the worksheets in this booklet, and other information. If you can't or don't provide these records to your college, you may not get Federal student aid. If you get Federal student aid based on incorrect information, you will have to pay it back; you may also have to pay fines and fees. If you purposely give false or misleading information on your application, you may be fined $10,000, sent to prison, or both.

WHAT IS THIS APPLICATION FOR?

Federal Student Financial Aid

"Federal student financial aid" means Federal grant, loan and work-study money for your education.

The Federal student assistance programs can help you pay for most kinds of education after high school. The aid is available if you are attending a college, a professional school, or a vocational or technical school. This application is for Federal student financial aid for the 1996-97 school year (July 1, 1996–June 30, 1997).

STATE AND COLLEGE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Some state and college aid programs may require additional information. Contact your state scholarship/grant agency or college financial aid administrator to find out whether you need to complete any form(s) in addition to the FAFSA, and what types of aid you might be eligible for. Be sure to see the **deadline dates** under "Deadlines for State Student Aid" on page 10. Some colleges also have their own deadlines, which may be earlier than the Federal deadline.

For more information on applying for student aid, see WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? on page 10.

This application is used for these Federal Student Financial Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grants
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans
Stafford/Ford Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans
Federal Perkins Loans
Federal Work-Study (FWS)
Title VII and Public Health Act Programs

To be eligible, you must . . .

- be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen,
- be registered with Selective Service (if required),
- attend a participating college,
- be working toward a degree or certificate,
- be making satisfactory academic progress,
- not owe a refund on a Federal grant or be in default on a Federal educational loan, **and**
- have financial need (except for Unsubsidized Stafford Loans).

In addition:

- Federal student loans must be repaid.
- Less-than-half-time students may be eligible for Federal Pell Grants and some other Federal student aid programs.
- Students who have received a bachelor's degree are not eligible for Federal Pell Grants or FSEOG, but may be eligible for other Federal student aid programs.
- Students attending two schools in the same enrollment period must inform both FAAs. Students can not receive Pell Grants at both schools.
- Conviction of drug distribution or possession may make a student ineligible.

DEADLINES

FEDERAL STUDENT AID—JANUARY 1, 1996 TO JUNE 30, 1997
You should apply as early as possible **but not before January 1, 1996.** Mailing in your form is only the first step in applying for student aid. **We must receive your form no later than June 30, 1997.**

FOR STATE STUDENT AID—SEE PAGE 10
State deadlines may be earlier than the Federal deadline. Your state may also require an additional form. Check the requirements and deadlines.

FOR COLLEGE AID—CHECK WITH YOUR FINANCIAL AID OFFICE. Colleges may have their own deadlines and applications for awarding student aid.

If you (and your family) have unusual circumstances, such as tuition expenses at an elementary or secondary school, unusual medical or dental expenses not covered by insurance, a family member who recently became unemployed, or changes in income or assets that affect your eligibility for financial aid, complete this form and then check with your college financial aid office.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

INSTRUCTIONS

Before you begin to fill out this form, TEAR IT OUT and lay it alongside the instruction book so that you can check for additional instructions as you go along.

The **RED** and **GRAY** areas indicate which instructions are for which questions. **Read the instructions as you fill out this form.** Mistakes will delay the processing of your application.

Some questions on the form are self-explanatory, and no additional instructions are provided. These are questions 9, 10, and 17.

Although other people (besides the student who is applying for aid) may help fill out this form, it is about the student. On this form, the words "you" and "your" always mean the student. The word "college" means a college, university, graduate or professional school, community college, vocational or technical school, or any other school beyond high school.

If you need more help, ask your high school guidance counselor or your college financial aid administrator to explain the instructions to you.

Records You Will Need
Keep these records! You may need them again.

- Student's driver's license and social security card
- W-2 Forms and other records of money earned in 1995
- 1995 U.S. income tax return (IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) If you haven't completed your tax return, see page 5.
- Records of untaxed income, such as welfare, social security, AFDC or ADC, or veterans benefits
- Current bank statements
- Current mortgage information
- Business and farm records
- Records of stocks, bonds, and other investments

Special Instructions. If you (your spouse or parents) file a Puerto Rico or foreign tax return, see page 9. If you are a Native American or a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau, see the special instructions on page 9.

When You Fill Out This Form

- **You must use a pen with black or dark ink, or a #2 pencil.**
- **Print carefully, do not write "N/A" or margin notes on the form!**
- **Fill in ovals completely, like this: ●**
- **For errors, use white-out or erase completely.**
- Round off all figures to the nearest dollar. For 50 cents or more, round up; for 49 cents or less, round down.
- For dates, write in numbers that correspond to the month, day, and year. For example, for November 7, 1974, write in 11-07-74.
- Questions about your plans and references to the "school year" mean the school year from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997.
- If you are applying to more than one college, answer the questions about enrollment according to your plans for your first-choice college.

Section A: You (the student)

1–3. Use your proper name, not a nickname. Your social security number (SSN) and your name should match the number and name on your social security card. If there are differences, you should update your information with the Social Security Administration.

4–7. Write in your permanent mailing address. All mail will be sent to this address. Don't use the address of the financial aid office or any other office. Use the state/country abbreviations list below.

State/Country Abbreviations

AL	Alabama	IA	Iowa	NC	North Carolina	WI	Wisconsin
AK	Alaska	KS	Kansas	ND	North Dakota	WY	Wyoming
AS	American Samoa	KY	Kentucky	OH	Ohio	Military:	
AZ	Arizona	LA	Louisiana	OK	Oklahoma		AA
AR	Arkansas	ME	Maine	OR	Oregon		AE
CA	California	MD	Maryland	PA	Pennsylvania		AP
CO	Colorado	MA	Massachusetts	PR	Puerto Rico	CN	Canada
CT	Connecticut	MI	Michigan	RI	Rhode Island	FM	Federated
DE	Delaware	MN	Minnesota	SC	South Carolina		States of
DC	District of	MS	Mississippi	SD	South Dakota		Micronesia
	Columbia	MO	Missouri	TN	Tennessee	MH	Marshall
FL	Florida	MT	Montana	TX	Texas		Islands
GA	Georgia	NE	Nebraska	UT	Utah	MX	Mexico
GU	Guam	NV	Nevada	VT	Vermont	MP	Northern
HI	Hawaii	NH	New Hampshire	VI	Virgin Islands		Mariana
ID	Idaho	NJ	New Jersey	VA	Virginia		Islands
IL	Illinois	NM	New Mexico	WA	Washington	PW	Palau
IN	Indiana	NY	New York	WV	West Virginia		

If your place of residence is not on the list above, leave the state abbreviation blank and write the name of your city and territory or country in the space for city.

8. You must write in your social security number (SSN) to be considered for Federal student aid. If you don't write your SSN, this form will be returned unprocessed. The Privacy Act statement on page 12 gives information about your protection and how your social security number can be used.

11. Write in the two-letter abbreviation for your current state/country of legal residence. Use the state/country abbreviations list above. Residency (domicile) is your true, fixed, and permanent home. If you moved into a state for the sole purpose of attending a college, **don't** count that state as your legal residence.

12. Write in the date you became a legal resident of the state you listed in question 11. If you've always lived in the state, you may use your date of birth as the date of legal residence. If you don't know the exact day that you became a legal resident, provide the month and year.

13–14. Write in your driver's license number, starting with the abbreviation of the state in which the license was issued (use the state/country abbreviation list above). If you have a driver's license, you must provide the license number if you previously received, or plan to apply for, a Federal student loan. If you don't have a driver's license, write "None" in the space for license number.

15–16. If you are a U.S. citizen (or U.S. national), fill in the first oval and go on to question 17. Fill in the second oval and write in your eight- or nine-digit Alien Registration Number if you are one of the following:

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- U.S. permanent resident, and you have an Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-151 or I-551).
- Other eligible noncitizen with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service showing any one of the following designations: (a) "Refugee," (b) "Asylum Granted," (c) "Indefinite Parole" and/or "Humanitarian Parole," (d) "Cuban-Haitian Entrant."
- Other eligible noncitizen with a Temporary Resident Card (I-688).

If you cannot fill in the first or second oval, you **must** fill in the third oval. If you are in the U.S. on only an F1 or F2 student visa, only a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or only a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations), you must fill in the third oval. **You may be eligible for some state or college aid.**

18. If you, the student, are currently married, separated, or widowed, write in the date you married, became separated, or were widowed. If you were never married, leave this question blank.

If your current marital status is "divorced," write in the date you separated or were divorced, whichever was earlier.

19. Answer **"No"** if you do not have a bachelor's degree from a college and you will not have one by July 1, 1996. Answer **"Yes"** if you already have a bachelor's degree or will have one by July 1, 1996. Also answer **"Yes"** if you have or will have a degree from a college in another country that is equal to a bachelor's degree.

Section B: Education Background

20–21. Write in **one** date: either the date that you graduated or expect to graduate from high school, **or** the date that you earned or expect to earn a certificate or diploma through the General Education Development (GED) program.

Leave both dates blank if you will not graduate from high school and will not receive a GED certificate.

Pennsylvania residents only. Leave both dates blank if you received a military GED, a foreign high school diploma, a home study diploma, or a correspondence school diploma.

22–23. These questions are for state scholarship purposes only and do not affect your eligibility for Federal student aid. For these questions only, "father" and "mother" mean your birth parents, or your adoptive parents, or legal guardian—not your foster parents or stepparents. Fill in one oval for your father's highest educational level or grade level completed, and one oval for your mother's highest educational level or grade level completed.

Section C: Your Plans

24–28. Fill in your expected enrollment status for the 1996-97 school year. If you are applying to more than one college, fill in the enrollment status and school terms that apply to the college you are most likely to attend. (See question 92.)

If you will be attending a nonterm or clock-hour institution, fill in your enrollment status and the term or terms that most closely match the time you will be enrolled.

29. Write in the two-digit number for your expected course of study, using the "Course of Study Code List" on this page. For example, if your course of study is bookkeeping, write in "04" for business management and administrative services. If your course of study is vocational/technical, such as mechanical or electrical repair, write in "25." If your course of study is not listed or you are undecided, write in "27."

Course of Study Code List

01 Agriculture
02 Architecture
03 Biological sciences (biology, zoology, etc.)
04 Business management and administrative services (mktg., mgmt., bkkp., acct., etc.)
05 Communications (journalism, advertising, etc.)
06 Computer sciences
07 Education
08 Engineering
09 English language/literature
10 Fine and performing arts
11 Foreign languages/literatures
12 Health profession (except nursing)
13 Home economics
14 Law
15 Liberal arts
16 Library sciences
17 Mathematics (includes statistics)
18 Nursing
19 Personal and miscellaneous services (cosmetology, culinary arts, massage, etc.)
20 Philosophy
21 Physical sciences (chemistry, physics, geology, etc.)
22 Social sciences and history (includes economics, geography, political science)
23 Psychology
24 Theological studies and religious vocations
25 Vocational/technical (construction, mechanical, transportation, etc.)
26 Wildlife, forestry, or marine sciences
27 Other/undecided

30–31. Write in the one-digit code for your expected degree or certificate, using the "Degree/Certificate Code List" below. If your degree or certificate does not fit any of these categories, or if you are undecided, enter "8." Then write the date that you expect to receive your degree or certificate. If your expected completion date will be the year 2000 or later, write the last two digits only, for example, write "00" for 2000, or "04" for 2004.

Degree/Certificate Code List

1 Certificate or diploma for completing an occupational, technical, or educational program (less than two-year program)
2 Certificate or diploma for completing an occupational, technical, or educational program (at least two-year program)
3 Associate degree (at least two-year degree)
4 1st bachelor's degree
5 2nd bachelor's degree
6 Teaching credential program (non-degree program)
7 Graduate or professional degree
8 Other/undecided

32. Fill in your grade level in college from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997. If you are currently a senior in high school or will be a first-time entering freshman, fill in "1st year/never attended college." "Grade level" does not mean the number of years you have attended college, but your grade level in regard to completing your degree/certificate. A student who is not enrolled full-time will require more years to reach the same grade level as a full-time student.

33–35. Answer **"Yes"** or **"No"** to indicate whether you are interested in student employment (for example, work-study programs) or a student loan. **Your parents,** not you, the student, would apply for the PLUS loan if they are interested in applying for a parent loan. Answering **"Yes"** does not obligate you or your parents to accept a loan or other student aid, nor does it guarantee that you will receive aid.

36. Answer **"Yes"** if you are (or were) in college and you plan to attend that same college in 1996-97. By "that same college" we mean the college you are attending now or the most recent college you have attended. If you are still in high school and are (or were) enrolled in college, leave this question blank. Also, leave this question blank if you have never previously attended college.

37. Report the number of people in your household for whom you, the student, will pay dependent care expenses while you are in college, for example, day-care or baby-sitting expenses.

38. Write in the amount of veterans education benefits you, the student, expect to receive per month from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997. The benefits you should write in include, but are not limited to, these programs: Selective Reserve Pay (Montgomery GI Bill–Chapter 106), New GI Bill (Montgomery GI Bill–Chapter 30), Post-Vietnam Veterans Educational Assistance Program [VEAP] (Chapter 32), Vocational Rehabilitation (Chapter 31), REPS (Restored Entitlement Benefits for Survivors–Section 156), Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 107), and Dependents Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35).

Don't include Death Pension or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

39. Write in the number of months from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997 that you expect to receive veterans education benefits.

Section D: Student Status

Answer each of the questions numbered 40 through 45 with either **"Yes"** or **"No."** A blank counts as **"No."**

40. Fill in the correct oval. (See your answer to question 9.)

41. Answer **"Yes"** if you:
- have engaged in active service in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard; or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies; and were released under a condition other than dishonorable; or
- are **not** a veteran **now** but will be one by June 30, 1997.

Answer **"No"** if you:
- never served in the U.S. Armed Forces,
- are only an ROTC student,
- are currently a cadet or midshipman at a service academy,
- are only a National Guard or Reserves enlistee and were not activated for duty, **or**
- are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and will continue to serve through June 30, 1997.

42. Answer **"Yes"** if you will be enrolled in a graduate or professional program (a course of study beyond a bachelor's degree) in the first term of 1996-97. If your graduate status will change during the school year, see your financial aid administrator.

43. Answer **"Yes"** if you are legally married **as of today**. Also, answer **"Yes"** if you are separated. "Married" does not mean living together unless your state recognizes your relationship as a common law marriage.

44. Answer **"Yes"** if (1) you are currently a ward of the court or were a ward of the court until age 18, or (2) both your parents are dead **and** you don't have an adoptive parent or legal guardian. For a definition of "legal guardian," see page 9.

45. Answer **"Yes"** if you have any children who get more than half of their support from you. Also answer **"Yes"** if other people (not your spouse) live with you and get more than half of their support from you and will continue to get that support during the 1996-97 school year.

Important Instructions for Sections E, F, and H

The question numbers on this form correspond with the information that will be printed on your Student Aid Report (SAR).

If you answered **"Yes"** to any of the questions in Section D, you (and your spouse if you are married) must fill out both the WHITE areas and the **GRAY** areas. Questions that you, the student (and your spouse), must complete are numbered 1–47, 53–64, and 92–110; in some cases, you must also complete questions 77–83 about your (and your spouse's) assets.

If you answered **"No"** to every one of the questions in Section D, then you must fill out the WHITE areas (about yourself) and the **RED** areas about your parents. Questions that you and your parents must complete are numbered 1–45, 48–76, and 92–110; in some cases you must also complete questions 77–91 about your and your parents' assets.

ATTENTION: GRADUATE HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS
If you are applying for Federal student aid from graduate programs authorized under Title VII of the **Public Health Service Act**, you must give information about your parents, even if you answered **"Yes"** to one of the questions in Section D. If you are unsure about the requirements, check with the financial aid administrator at the college you plan to attend. If your college requires parental information, complete the **RED**, **GRAY**, and WHITE areas and make sure that at least one parent signs this form.

Section E: Household Information

Student (& Spouse) Household Information - GRAY Area

Fill out this section with information about yourself (and your spouse). If you are divorced, separated, or widowed, don't include information about your spouse.

46. Write in the number of people in your household that you will *support* between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 1997. Include yourself and your spouse. Include your children if they get more than half their *support* from you. Include other people only if they meet the following criteria: 1) they now live with you, **and** 2) they now get more than half their *support* from you **and** they will continue to get this support between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 1997. *(Support includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car, medical and dental care, payment of college costs, etc.)*

47. Write in the number of people from question 46, including yourself, who will be college students between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 1997. Always include yourself, even if you will be enrolled for less than half-time. Your spouse and other family members may be counted as college students only if they are enrolling (or are accepted for enrollment) for at least 6 credit hours in at least one term, or at least 12 clock hours per week. To be counted here, a college student must be working towards a degree or certificate leading to a recognized education credential at a college that is eligible to participate in any of the Federal student aid programs.

Parent(s) Household Information - RED Areas

Read the descriptions that follow. Fill in all the ovals that apply to you and follow the instructions.

○ **Your parents are both living and married to each other.** Answer the questions on the rest of this form about them.

○ **You have a legal guardian.** Answer the questions on the rest of this form about your legal guardian. For a definition of "legal guardian" see page 9.

○ **Your parents have divorced or separated.** Answer the questions on the rest of the form about the parent you lived with most in the last 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than with the other, answer in terms of the parent who provided the most *financial* support during the last 12 months, or during the most recent calendar year that you actually were supported by a parent. *(Support includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car, medical and dental care, payment of college costs, etc.)*

○ **Your parent is widowed or single.** Answer the questions on the rest of this form about that parent.

○ **You have a stepparent.** If the parent that you counted above is married or remarried **as of today**, you must include information about your stepparent (even if they were not married in 1995).

If you are giving information about your stepparent, note that whenever we say "parents" on the rest of this form, we also mean your stepparent.

48. Show the current marital status of the people that you give information about on this form. For example, if you give information about your mother and stepfather, fill in the oval that says "married," because your mother and stepfather are married.

49. Write in the two-letter abbreviation for your parent(s)' current state/country of legal residence. See the list of abbreviations on page 2. Residency (domicile) is your parents' true, fixed, and permanent home. If your parents are residing in a state for the sole purpose of attending a college, don't count that state as their legal residence. If your parents are separated or divorced, use the state/country of legal residence for the parent whose information is reported on this form.

50. Write in the date your parent(s) became a legal resident(s) of the state you listed in question 49. If your parents became legal residents of the state at different times, use the date for the parent who has been a resident the longest. If your parents are divorced or separated, use the date for the parent whose information is reported on this form.

51. Write in the number of people in your household that your parents will *support* between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 1997. Include your parents and yourself. Include your parents' other children if they get more than half their *support* from your parents, or if they would be required to provide parental information when applying for Title IV Federal student aid in 1996-97. Include other people only if they now live with and get more than half their *support* from your parents and will continue to get this support between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 1997.

(Support includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car, medical and dental care, payment of college costs, etc.)

52. Write in the number of people from question 51 who will be college students between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 1997. Always count yourself, even if you will be enrolled for less than half-time. Your parents and other family members may be counted as college students only if they are enrolling (or are accepted for enrollment) for at least 6 credit hours in at least one term, or at least 12 clock hours per week. To be counted here, a college student must be working towards a degree or certificate leading to a recognized education credential at a college that is eligible to participate in any of the Federal student aid programs.

Section F: 1995 Income, Earnings, and Benefits

Tax filing information for Section F

Won't file a tax return. Even if you, your spouse, and/or your parents don't file an income tax return for 1995, you will need to know earnings for the year. Use your W-2 Forms and other records to answer the questions here.

Tax return not completed - how estimated taxes are handled. We recommend that you complete your income tax return before filling out this application. However, it may be necessary to estimate tax information to meet state and college deadlines. When your application is compared with the official 1995 IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ that you and your family file, the financial information must agree. If there are differences, you will need to correct the information and send it back to the U.S. Department of Education. This could mean a delay in getting your student financial aid.

IRS Form 1040 filers. In certain instances, you, your spouse, or your parents may have filed a 1995 IRS Form 1040, even though you were **not required** to file a Form 1040. Tax preparers often file a Form 1040 or an electronic 1040 on behalf of the tax filer, even though that person's income and tax filing circumstances would allow him or her to file a 1040A or 1040EZ. If you are sure that you, your spouse, or your parents are not required to file a Form 1040, then fill in either oval "A" or oval "C" in question 53 and/or question 65 to indicate eligibility to file a 1040A or 1040EZ.

IRS 1040TEL filers. If you filed or will file a 1040TEL (tax filing by telephone, available in some states), fill in the oval for either the completed or estimated 1995 IRS Form 1040EZ in questions 53 and/or 65.

Puerto Rico Tax Filers, Foreign Tax Return Filers, and Native Americans, see page 9.

In Section F, if the instructions tell you to **skip** a question, leave it blank. If your answer to a question is "none" or "zero," put a zero in the answer space. **Don't** leave it blank or use dashes. For example:

$ 0 .00

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Student (& Spouse) 1995 Income, Earnings, and Benefits

53. 1995 U.S. income tax form. Fill in only one oval to indicate which IRS form was filed or will be filed for 1995.

If you are currently divorced, separated, or widowed, but you filed (or will file) a joint tax return for 1995, give only your portion of the exemptions, income, and taxes paid asked for in questions 54 through 63.

If you are married and you and your spouse filed (or will file) separate tax returns for 1995, be sure to include both your and your spouse's exemptions and income in questions 54 through 63, even if you were not married in 1995.

Use the tax return to fill out questions 54 through 63.

54. Total number of exemptions for 1995. Write in the number from Form 1040-line 6e or 1040A-line 6e. If you (and your spouse) used the 1040EZ and answered **"Yes"** on Form 1040EZ-line 5, use the 1040EZ worksheet (line F) to determine the number of exemptions ($2500 equals 1 exemption). If you answered **"No,"** enter "01" if you are single or "02" if you are married.

55. Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for 1995. Write in the amount from IRS Form 1040-line 31, Form 1040A-line 16, or Form 1040EZ-line 4.

Use Worksheet #1 on page 11 to answer question 55 if you don't have a 1995 tax form but will be filing one.

56. U.S. Income tax paid for 1995. Write in the amount from IRS Form 1040-line 46, Form 1040A-line 25, or Form 1040EZ-line 10. Make sure this amount doesn't include any FICA, self-employment, or Other Taxes from Form 1040. **Don't** copy the amount of "Federal income tax withheld" from a W-2 Form.

57–58. Income earned from work in 1995.

If you filed or will file a tax return, include the "wages, salaries, tips, etc." from your (and your spouse's) Form 1040-line 7, 1040A-line 7, or 1040EZ-line 1. If you (and your spouse) filed a joint return, report your and your spouse's earnings separately. If you (and your spouse) own a business or farm, also add in the numbers from Form 1040-lines 12 and 18.

If you are not a tax filer, include your (and your spouse's) earnings from work in 1995. Add up the earnings from your (and your spouse's) W-2 Forms and any other earnings from work that are not included on the W-2 Forms.

59–63. Untaxed income and benefits for 1995. Don't include benefits reported in questions 71 through 75 of the Parent(s) column.

59. Earned Income Credit. Report the total amount of your (and your spouse's) Earned Income Credit from Form 1040–line 57, Form 1040A–line 29c, or Form 1040EZ–line 8.

60. Social security benefits for 1995. Write in the amount of **untaxed** social security benefits (including Supplemental Security Income) that you (and your spouse) got in 1995. Don't include any benefits reported in question 55. Don't report monthly amounts; write in the total for 1995. Be sure to include the amounts that you got for your children. Don't include amounts your parents received for you, which should be reported in questions 72 through 75.

61. Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC or ADC) for 1995. Don't report monthly amounts; write in the total for 1995. Don't report social security benefits here.

62. Child support received for all children. Don't report monthly amounts; write in the total received for 1995.

63. Other untaxed income and benefits for 1995. Use Worksheet #2 on page 11. Add up your (and your spouse's) other untaxed income and benefits for 1995. Be sure to include your (and your spouse's) deductible IRA/Keogh payments, if any.

64. 1995 Total from Worksheet #3. Enter the total amount from Worksheet #3 on page 12. Write in "0" if the worksheet items don't apply to you (and your spouse).

Parent(s) 1995 Income, Earnings, and Benefits

65. 1995 U.S. income tax form. Fill in only one oval to indicate which IRS form was filed or will be filed for 1995.

If you are giving information for only one parent and that parent filed (or will file) a joint tax return for 1995, give only that parent's portion of the exemptions, income, and taxes paid asked for in questions 66 through 75.

If your parents are married and they filed (or will file) separate tax returns for 1995, be sure to include both parents' exemptions and income in questions 66 through 75.

Use the tax return to fill out questions 66 through 75.

66. Total number of exemptions for 1995. Write in the number from Form 1040-line 6e or 1040A-line 6e. If your parent(s) used the 1040EZ and answered **"Yes"** on Form 1040EZ-line 5, use the 1040EZ worksheet (line F) to determine the number of exemptions ($2500 equals 1 exemption). If your parent(s) answered **"No,"** enter "01" if your parent is single or "02" if your parents are married.

67. Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for 1995. Write in the amount from IRS Form 1040-line 31, Form 1040A-line 16, or Form 1040EZ-line 4.

Use Worksheet #1 on page 11 to answer question 66 if your parents don't have a 1995 tax form but will be filing one.

68. U.S. income tax paid for 1995. Write in the amount from IRS Form 1040-line 46, Form 1040A-line 25, or Form 1040EZ-line 10. Make sure this amount doesn't include any FICA, self-employment, or Other Taxes from Form 1040. **Don't** copy the amount of "Federal income tax withheld" from a W-2 Form.

69–70. Income earned from work in 1995.

If your parent(s) filed or will file a tax return, include the "wages, salaries, tips, etc." from your parents' Form 1040-line 7, 1040A-line 7, or 1040EZ-line 1. If your parents filed a joint return, report your father's and mother's earnings separately. If your parents own a business or farm, also add in the numbers from Form 1040-lines 12 and 18.

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Free Application for Federal Student Aid
1996-97 School Year

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this form, you may be fined $10,000, sent to prison, or both.

"You" and "your" on this form always mean the student who wants aid.

Form Approved OMB No. 1840-0110 App. Exp. 6/30/97

U.S. Department of Education Student Financial Assistance Programs

Print in capital letters with a dark ink. BER24 *Fill in ovals completely.* Right ● Wrong ⊗ ✓

Section A: You (the student)

1–3. Your name

1. Last name | 2. First name | 3. M.I.

Your title (optional) Mr. ○ 1 Miss, Mrs., or Ms. ○ 2

4–7. Your permanent mailing address *(All mail will be sent to this address. See Instructions, page 2 for state/country abbreviations.)*

4. Number and street (Include apt. no.)

5. City | 6. State | 7. ZIP code

8. Your social security number (SSN) *(Don't leave blank. See Instructions, page 2.)*

9. Your date of birth Month Day Year

10. Your permanent home telephone number Area code

11. Your state of legal residence State

12. Date you became a legal resident of the state in question 11 *(See Instructions, page 2.)* Month Day Year

13–14. Your driver's license number *(Include the state abbreviation. If you don't have a license, write in "None.")*

State | License number

15–16. Are you a U.S. citizen? *(See Instructions, pages 2–3.)*

Yes, I am a U.S. citizen. ○ 1

No, but I am an eligible noncitizen. ○ 2 A

No, neither of the above. ○ 3

17. As of today, are you married? *(Fill in only one oval.)*

I am not married. (I am single, widowed, or divorced.) ○ 1

I am married. ○ 2

I am separated from my spouse. ○ 3

18. Date you were married, separated, divorced, or widowed. If divorced, use date of divorce or separation, whichever is earlier. *(If never married, leave blank.)* Month Year

19. Will you have your first bachelor's degree before July 1, 1996? Yes ○ 1 No ○ 2

Section B: Education Background

20–21. Date that you (the student) received, or will receive, your high school diploma, either—

- by graduating from high school Month Year

OR

- by earning a GED Month Year

*(Enter **one** date. Leave blank if the question does not apply to you.)*

22–23. Highest educational level or grade level your father and your mother completed. *(Fill in one oval for each parent. See Instructions, page 3.)*

	22. Father	23. Mother
elementary school (K–8)	○ 1	○ 1
high school (9–12)	○ 2	○ 2
college or beyond	○ 3	○ 3
unknown	○ 4	○ 4

If you (and your family) have **unusual circumstances**, complete this form and then check with your financial aid administrator. Examples:

- tuition expenses at an elementary or secondary school,
- unusual medical or dental expenses not covered by insurance,
- a family member who recently became unemployed, or
- other unusual circumstances such as changes in income or assets that might affect your eligibility for student financial aid.

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Section C: Your Plans *Answer these questions about your **college** plans.*

24–28. Your expected enrollment status for the 1996-97 school year *(See Instructions, page 3.)*

School term	Full time	3/4 time	1/2 time	Less than 1/2 time	Not enrolled
24. Summer term '96	1	2	3	4	5
25. Fall semester/qtr. '96	1	2	3	4	5
26. Winter quarter '96-97	1	2	3	4	5
27. Spring semester/qtr. '97	1	2	3	4	5
28. Summer term '97	1	2	3	4	5

29. Your course of study *(See Instructions for code, page 3.)* Code

30–31. College degree/certificate you expect to receive **and** the date you expect to receive it *(See Instructions for code, page 3.)*

30. Degree/certificate

31. Date Month Day Year

32. Your grade level during the 1996-97 school year *(Fill in only one.)*

1st yr./never attended college	1	5th year/other undergraduate	6
1st yr./attended college before	2	1st year graduate/professional	7
2nd year/sophomore	3	2nd year graduate/professional	8
3rd year/junior	4	3rd year graduate/professional	9
4th year/senior	5	Beyond 3rd year graduate/professional	0

33–35. In addition to grants, what other types of financial aid are you (and your parents) interested in? *(See Instructions, page 3.)*

33. Student employment	Yes 1	No 2
34. Student loans	Yes 1	No 2
35. Parent loans for students	Yes 1	No 2

36. If you are (or were) in college, do you plan to attend **that same college** in 1996-97? *(If this doesn't apply to you, leave blank.)* Yes 1 No 2

37. For how many dependents will you pay child care or elder care expenses in 1996-97?

38–39. Veterans education benefits you expect to receive from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997

38. Amount per month

39. Number of months

Section D: Student Status

40. Were you born **before** January 1, 1973?	Yes 1	No 2
41. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?	Yes 1	No 2
42. Will you be enrolled in a graduate or professional program (beyond a bachelor's degree) in 1996-97?	Yes 1	No 2
43. Are you married?	Yes 1	No 2
44. Are you an orphan or a ward of the court, or **were** you a ward of the court until age 18?	Yes 1	No 2
45. Do you have legal dependents **(other than a spouse)** that fit the definition in Instructions, page 4?	Yes 1	No 2

If you answered "Yes" to any question in Section D, go to Section E and fill out the GRAY and the WHITE areas on the rest of this form.

If you answered "No" to every question in Section D, go to Section E and fill out the RED and the WHITE areas on the rest of this form.

Section E: Household Information

If you are filling out the GRAY and WHITE areas, answer questions 46 and 47 and go to Section F.

If you are filling out the RED and WHITE areas, skip questions 46 and 47. Answer questions 48 through 52 about your parents, and then go on to Section F.

STUDENT (& SPOUSE)

46. Number in your household in 1996-97 *(Include yourself and your spouse. Do not include your children and other people unless they meet the definition in Instructions, page 4.)*

47. Number of college students in household in 1996-97 *(Of the number in 46, how many will be in college at least half-time in at least one term in an eligible program? Include yourself. See Instructions, page 4.)*

PARENT(S)

48. Your parents' **current** marital status:

single 1 married 2 separated 3 divorced 4 widowed 5

49. Your parent(s)' state of legal residence State

50. Date your parent(s) became legal resident(s) of the state in question 49 *(See Instructions, page 5.)* Month Day Year

51. Number in your parents' household in 1996-97 *(Include yourself and your parents. Do not include your parents' other children and other people unless they meet the definition in Instructions, page 5.)*

52. Number of college students in household in 1996-97 *(Of the number in 51, how many will be in college at least half-time in at least one term in an eligible program? Include yourself. See Instructions, page 5.)*

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Section F: 1995 Income, Earnings, and Benefits

Everyone must fill out the Student (& Spouse) column.

You must see Instructions, pages 5 and 6, for information about tax forms and tax filing status, especially if you are estimating taxes or filing electronically or by telephone. These instructions will tell you what income and benefits should be reported in this section.

The following 1995 U.S. income tax figures are from:

	STUDENT (& SPOUSE) *53. (Fill in only one.)*	PARENT(S) *65. (Fill in only one.)*
A—a completed 1995 IRS Form 1040A, 1040EZ, or 1040TEL	○ 1	A ○ 1
B—a completed 1995 IRS Form 1040	○ 2	B ○ 2
C—an estimated 1995 IRS Form 1040A, 1040EZ,or 1040TEL	○ 3	C ○ 3
D—an estimated 1995 IRS Form 1040	○ 4	D ○ 4
E—will not file a 1995 U.S. income tax return *(Skip to question 57.)*	○ 5	E *(Skip to 69.)* ○ 5

	STUDENT (& SPOUSE)	TAX FILERS ONLY	PARENT(S)
1995 Total number of exemptions (Form 1040–line 6e, or 1040A–line 6e; 1040EZ filers— *see Instructions, page 6.*)	**54.**		**66.**
1995 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI: Form 1040–line 31, 1040A–line 16, or 1040EZ–line 4—*see Instructions, page 6.*)	**55.** $ .00		**67.** $ .00
1995 U.S. income tax **paid** (Form 1040–line 46, 1040A–line 25, or 1040EZ–line 10	**56.** $ .00		**68.** $ .00
1995 Income earned from work (Student)	**57.** $ .00	(Father)	**69.** $ .00
1995 Income earned from work (Spouse)	**58.** $ .00	(Mother)	**70.** $ .00

1995 Untaxed income and benefits (yearly totals only):

Earned Income Credit (Form 1040–line 57; Form 1040A–line 29c; Form 1040EZ–line 8)	**59.** $ .00	**71.** $ .00
Social Security Benefits	**60.** $ .00	**72.** $ .00
Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC/ADC)	**61.** $ .00	**73.** $ .00
Child support received for all children	**62.** $ .00	**74.** $ .00
Other untaxed income and benefits from Worksheet #2, page 11	**63.** $ .00	**75.** $ .00
1995 Total from Worksheet #3, page 12	**64.** $ .00	**76.** $ .00

ATTENTION

Section G: Asset Information

Fill out Worksheet A or Worksheet B in Instructions, page 7.

If you meet the tax filing and income conditions on Worksheets A and B, you do not have to complete Section G to apply for Federal student aid. Some states and colleges, however, require Section G information for their own aid programs. Check with your financial aid administrator.

Age of your older parent **84.**

	STUDENT (& SPOUSE)	PARENT(S)
Cash, savings, and checking accounts	**77.** $ .00	**85.** $
Other real estate and investments value *(Don't include the home.)*	**78.** $ .00	**86.** $ .00
Other real estate and investments debt *(Don't include the home.)*	**79.** $ .00	**87.** $ .00
Business value	**80.** $ .00	**88.** $ .00
Business debt	**81.** $ .00	**89.** $ .00
Investment farm value *(See Instructions, page 8.)*	**82.** $ .00	**90.** $ .00
Investment farm debt *(See Instructions, page 8.)*	**83.** $ .00	**91.** $ .00

Section H: Releases and Signatures

92–103. What college(s) do you plan to attend in 1996–97?
(Note: The colleges you list below will have access to your application information. See Instructions, page 8.)

Housing codes		
	1—on-campus	3—with parent(s)
	2—off-campus	4—with relative(s) other than parent(s)

	Title IV School Code	College Name	College Street Address and City	State	Housing Code
XX.	0 5 4 3 2 1	EXAMPLE UNIVERSITY	14930 NORTH SOMEWHERE BLVD. ANYWHERE CITY	S T	XX. 2
92.					93.
94.					95.
96.					97.
98.					99.
100.					101.
102.					103.

104. The U.S. Department of Education will send information from this form to your state financial aid agency and the state agencies of the colleges listed above so they can consider you for state aid. Answer **"No"** if you **don't** want information released to the state. *(See "Deadlines for State Student Aid" in Instructions, page 10.)* ..... **104. No** ○

105. Males not yet registered for Selective Service: Do you want us to register you? *(See Instructions, page 9.)* ..... **105. Yes** ○

106–107. Read, Sign, and Date

All of the information provided by me or any other person on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this application is being filed jointly by all signatories. If asked by an authorized official, I agree to give proof of the information that I have given on this form. I realize that this proof may include a copy of my U.S. or state income tax return. I also realize that if I do not give proof when asked, the student may be denied aid.

Certification Statement on Overpayments and Defaults. I understand that I may not receive any Federal Title IV, HEA funds if I owe an overpayment on any Title IV educational grant or am in default on a Title IV educational loan unless I have made satisfactory arrangements to repay or otherwise resolve the overpayment or default. I also understand that I must notify my school if I do owe an overpayment or am in default.

Statement of Educational Purpose. I certify that I will use any Federal Title IV, HEA funds I receive during the award year covered by this application solely for expenses related to my attendance at the institution of higher education that determined or certified my eligibility for those funds.

Everyone whose information is given on this form should sign below. The student (and at least one parent, if parental information is given), must sign below or this form will be returned unprocessed.

106. Signatures

1 Student

2 Student's Spouse

3 Father/Stepfather

4 Mother/Stepmother

107. Date completed

Month Day

Year 1996 ○
1997 ○

School Use Only D/O ○

Title IV Code

FAA Signature

MDE Use Only *Do not write in this box* — Spec. handle ☐ No. copies ☐

Section I: Preparer's Use Only

For preparers other than student, spouse, and parent(s). Student, spouse, and parent(s), sign above.

Preparer's name (last, first, MI)

Firm name

Firm or preparer's address (street, city, state, ZIP)

108. Employer identification number (EIN)

OR

109. Preparer's social security number

Certification: All of the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

110. Preparer's signature **Date**

MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED, DATED, AND SIGNED THIS APPLICATION.
Mail the application to: Federal Student Aid Programs, P.O. Box 60001, Cahokia, IL 62206-6001

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If your parent(s) are not tax filers, write in your parents' earnings from work in 1995. Add up the earnings from your parents' W-2 Forms and any other earnings from work that are not included on the W-2 Forms.

71–75. Untaxed income and benefits for 1995.

71. Earned Income Credit. Report the total amount of your parents' Earned Income Credit from Form 1040–line 57, Form 1040A–line 29c, or Form 1040EZ–line 8.

72. Social security benefits for 1995. Write in the amount of **untaxed** social security benefits (including Supplemental Security Income) that your parents got in 1995. Don't include any benefits reported in question 67. Don't report monthly amounts; write in the total for 1995. Be sure to include the amounts that your parents got for you and their other children.

73. Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC or ADC) for 1995. Don't report monthly amounts; write in the total for 1995. Don't report social security benefits here.

74. Child support received for all children. Include the student. Don't report monthly amounts; write in the total received for 1995.

75. Other untaxed income and benefits for 1995. Use Worksheet #2 on page 11. Add up your parents' other untaxed income and benefits for 1995. Be sure to include your parents' deductible IRA/Keogh payments, if any.

76. 1995 Total from Worksheet #3. Enter the total amount from Worksheet #3 on page 12. Write in "0" if the worksheet items don't apply to your parents.

ATTENTION: COMPLETE WORKSHEET A IF YOU ARE FILLING OUT THE GRAY AND WHITE AREAS OR WORKSHEET B IF YOU ARE FILLING OUT THE RED AND WHITE AREAS TO SEE IF YOU NEED TO FILL OUT SECTION G.

WORKSHEET A—SIMPLIFIED NEEDS TEST

1. Did or will you (and your spouse) file a 1995 IRS Form 1040, and you (and/or your spouse) were not and are not eligible to file a 1995 1040A or 1040EZ?

   If "Yes"—fill out Section G, WHITE area, and the rest of this form.

   If "No"—fill out the rest of this Worksheet.

   Income from the STUDENT (& SPOUSE) column:

2. Question 55 $_____.00
   OR
3. Questions 57 and 58 $_____.00
   (only if you left question 55 blank)

If the answer from either **question 2 or 3 is less than $50,000**, you do not have to fill out Section G. Go on to Section H.

If the answer from either **question 2 or 3 is $50,000 or more**, complete Section G and the rest of this form.

WORKSHEET B—SIMPLIFIED NEEDS TEST

1. Did or will you and/or your parent(s) (both parents, if they are married) file a 1995 IRS Form 1040, and you and/or your parent(s) were not and are not eligible to file a 1995 1040A or 1040EZ?

   If "Yes"—fill out Section G, both WHITE and RED areas, and the rest of this form.

   If "No"—fill out the rest of this Worksheet.

   Income from the PARENT(S) column only:

2. Question 67 $_____.00
   OR
3. Questions 69 and 70 $_____.00
   (only if you left question 67 blank)

If the answer from either **question 2 or 3 is less than $50,000**, you do not have to fill out Section G. Go on to Section H.

If the answer from either **question 2 or 3 is $50,000 or more**, complete Section G and the rest of this form.

Section G: Asset Information

Student (& Spouse) Asset Information

You must give information about your (and your spouse's) assets in Section G. If you are divorced or separated and you and your spouse have jointly owned assets, give only your portion of the assets and debts. Be sure to give information about assets held in trust for you (and your spouse).

If you (and your spouse) have assets owned jointly with someone else—such as a business or farm—give only your (and your spouse's) portion of the assets and debts.

In Section G, **don't include:**

- a home, if it is the principal place of residence,
- a family farm, as defined in question 82,
- personal or consumer loans, or any debts that are not related to the assets listed,
- the value of life insurance policies and retirement plans (pension funds, annuities, IRAs, Keogh Plans, etc.), or
- student financial aid.

77. Cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include the current balance of checking or savings accounts unless you (and your spouse) do not have access to the money because the state declared a bank emergency due to the insolvency of a private deposit insurance fund.

78. Other real estate and investments value. If you (and/or your spouse) own other real estate or have investments, write in how much they are worth **today**. Other real estate includes rental property, land, and second or summer homes. Include the value of portions of multifamily dwellings that are **not** the family's principal residence. Investments include trust funds, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts *(including mortgages held)*, commodities, precious and strategic metals, etc. Don't include your home.

79. Other real estate and investments debt. Write in how much you (and/or your spouse) owe on other real estate and investments.

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80. Business value. If you (and/or your spouse) own a business, write in how much the business is worth **today**. Include the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventories, etc.

81. Business debt. Write in what you (and/or your spouse) owe on the business. Include only the present mortgage and related debts for which the business was used as collateral.

82. Investment farm value. If you (and/or your spouse) own an investment farm, write in the value **today**. Include the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, livestock, inventories, etc. Don't include a family farm if it is your principal place of residence and you claimed on Schedule F of the tax return that you "materially participated in the farm's operation."

83. Investment farm debt. Write in what you (and/or your spouse) owe on the investment farm. Include only the present mortgage and related debts for which the farm was used as collateral.

Parent(s) Asset Information

You must give information about your parents' assets in Section G. If you are giving information for only one parent and that parent has jointly owned assets, give only that parent's portion of the assets and debts.

If your parents have assets owned jointly with someone else—such as a business or farm—give only your parents' portion of the assets and debts.

In Section G, **don't include:**

- a home, if it is the principal place of residence,
- a family farm, as defined in question 90,
- personal or consumer loans, or any debts that are not related to the assets listed,
- the value of life insurance policies and retirement plans (pension funds, annuities, IRAs, Keogh Plans, etc.), or
- student financial aid.

84. Write in the age of the older parent for whom you are giving information on this form. Refer to page 5 to see whose information you should be reporting on this form.

85. Cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include the current balance of checking or savings accounts unless your parents do not have access to the money because the state declared a bank emergency due to the insolvency of a private deposit insurance fund.

86. Other real estate and investments value. If your parents own other real estate or have investments, write in how much they are worth **today**. Other real estate includes rental property, land, and second or summer homes. Include the value of portions of multifamily dwellings that are **not** the family's principal residence. Investments include trust funds, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts *(including mortgages held)*, commodities, precious and strategic metals, etc. Don't include your parents' home.

87. Other real estate and investments debt. Write in how much your parents owe on other real estate and investments.

88. Business value. If your parents own a business, write in how much the business is worth **today**. Include the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventories, etc.

89. Business debt. Write in what your parents owe on the business. Include only the present mortgage and related debts for which the business was used as collateral.

90. Investment farm value. If your parents own an investment farm, write in the value of the farm **today**. Include the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, livestock, inventories, etc. Don't include a family farm if it is the principal place of residence and your parents claimed on Schedule F of the tax return that they "materially participated in the farm's operation."

91. Investment farm debt. Write in what your parents owe on the investment farm. Include only the present mortgage and related debts for which the farm was used as collateral.

Section H: Releases and Signatures

92–103. By answering questions 92 through 103, and signing this form, you give permission to the U.S. Department of Education to provide information from your application to the college(s) that you list in Section H. You also agree that such information is deemed to incorporate by reference the Statement of Educational Purpose on page 4 of the application. Colleges that receive information electronically or on tape or cartridge will get your application information automatically. Colleges use this information to help estimate the amount of your financial aid package. Don't write in the name of a college if you don't want it to receive your application information. You may leave questions 92-103 blank if you don't know which colleges you are interested in, but if you do, we will not send your application information to any colleges.

Your application may be processed faster if you write in the Title IV SchoolCode and the name of the college only. Check with your financial aid office, your high school counselor, or your public library for the Title IV SchoolCode list provided by the U.S. Department of Education. The Title IV School Code is always a six-character code that begins with "0" (zero), "G," "B," or "E."

If you can't get the Title IV Code, write in the **complete name, address, city, and state** of the college(s) that you are interested in attending. **Write clearly.** It is very important to write the correct city and state or Title IV School Code so that your college can be identified. If a college is a branch campus, include the complete name of the branch. Also, indicate if it is a specific part of a university, such as the law school.

For each college, select the housing code number that best describes the type of housing you expect to live in if you attend that particular college. Write the housing code number on the line for that college. In question 92, write in the name and address of the college that you are **most likely** to attend. **(Note: States often consider the college you write on the first line in determining their awards for state aid.)** In question 93, write in your expected housing code for that college. Continue in the same way for question 94 if you are applying to more than one college. Don't write more than one college and housing code on each line.

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To have information sent to more than six colleges. About four weeks after mailing your application, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR). You can take or send a copy of your SAR to a new college. You can also write a letter to a FAFSA processor requesting that information be sent to new colleges. Or, after you receive your SAR, you can write in new college names/addresses or Title IV School Codes on the SAR, and return it to the address printed on the SAR.

104. Answer **"No"** only if you do **not** give permission to send information from this form to the financial aid agencies in your state and to the state agencies of any college(s) you listed in Section H. Some state agencies use this information to help decide whether you will get a state award and to check if you reported correct information on your state student aid application. Also, they may use it to help in the processing of your application for a Federal student loan, if you are eligible. **If you answer "No," any state aid you might be eligible for may be denied or delayed**, but it will have no effect on your Federal student aid.

By allowing us to send information to your state financial aid agency, you are giving permission to the verification of any statement made on this form. Also, you are giving permission to the state financial aid agency to which information is being sent to obtain income tax information for all persons required to report income and for all periods reported on this form.

Maryland residents only. You are giving permission to have your information sent to your state senator and delegates so that you may be considered for scholarships under their programs, unless you answer **"No."**

Be sure to read **Information on the Privacy Act and Use of Your Social Security Number** on page 12.

105. Selective Service Registration. In order to receive Federal student aid, you must be registered with Selective Service if you are a male who is at least 18 years old and born after December 31, 1959. Answer **"Yes"** only if you are a male and are 18 through 25 years of age, have not yet registered with Selective Service, **and** give Selective Service permission to register you. If you believe that you are not required to be registered, call the Selective Service office at 1-847-688-6888 for information regarding exemptions.

106–107. Read and sign. You must sign and date this form. If you don't, it will be returned unprocessed. If you are married, your spouse should also sign this form. If you filled out the **RED** and the **WHITE** areas, at least one of your parents must sign this form. **Everyone signing this form is certifying that all information on the form is correct** and that everyone is willing to provide documents to prove that the information is correct. Such documents may include U.S. or state tax returns and the worksheets in this instruction book. Don't sign, date, or mail your FAFSA before January 1, 1996. If you do, the form will be returned unprocessed.

Section I: Preparer's Use Only

108-110. Preparers. If someone other than you, your spouse, or parents completed this form on your behalf, especially if the person charged a fee for assisting you, the law requires the preparer to fill in Section I. A "preparer" is anyone who wrote the answers or told you what to write. The preparer must write in his or her name and the company name and address (or home address, if self-employed). Either the preparer's social security number, or the company's Employer Identification Number (EIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), is also required. The preparer must sign and date the form, certifying that the information is correct and complete. An original signature is required, although the preparer may use a pre-printed address label or a rubber stamp to fill in address information.

Sending In Your Form

Double-check your form to make sure it is complete and accurate. Be sure it has the necessary signatures. Put the form in the envelope provided . Don't send money; this is a free application. Don't put letters, tax forms, worksheets, or any extra materials in the envelope. **They will be destroyed.**

Special Instructions/Definitions

Puerto Rico Tax Return. If you, your spouse, and/or your parents filed (or will file) a 1995 Puerto Rico tax return, or were not required to file a Puerto Rico tax return according to the tax code of Puerto Rico, follow the instructions below:

- In question 53 and/or question 65, fill in oval "A" if a Puerto Rico tax return has been filed; oval "C" if a Puerto Rico tax return will be filed; or oval "E" if you, your spouse, and/or your parents were not required to file a Puerto Rico tax return according to the tax code of Puerto Rico.
- Use the information from that tax return to fill out this form.

Foreign Tax Return. If you and your spouse, or your parents, **won't** be filing a U.S. income tax return in 1995, follow the instructions below:

- In question 53 and/or question 65, fill in oval "B" if a foreign tax return has been filed, or oval "D" if a foreign tax return will be filed.
- Use the information from that tax return to fill out this form.
- Convert all figures to U.S. dollars, using the exchange rate that is in effect **today,** and
- Fill out Section G, Asset Information.

Legal Guardian. A legal guardian is a person who is appointed by a court to be your legal guardian in a legal relationship that will continue after June 30, 1997, **and** who is directed by a court to support you with his or her own financial resources.

Native American. If you are a Native American, report the amount of income and assets over $2,000 per individual payment that you (and your spouse) or your parents received in 1995 from the Per Capita Act or the Distribution of Judgment Funds Act. If $2,000 or less per individual payment was received from either of these Acts, don't report it. Don't report funds received as an award under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act or the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act. Also, don't report any assets received from the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Citizens of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau. If you do not have a social security number (SSN), contact your financial aid administrator before you mail in this form. Also ask your financial aid administrator how to answer question 15 about your citizenship status.

What Happens Next?

Need more information on Federal student aid? You can get more information from *The Student Guide: Financial Aid from the U.S. Department of Education.* To get a free copy, write to:

Federal Student Aid Information Center
P.O. Box 84
Washington, DC 20044

The U.S. Department of Education also has a toll-free number to answer questions about Federal student aid programs. This number is **1-800-4-FED AID (1-800-433-3243)**.

If you are hearing-impaired and have a TDD machine, you may call toll-free **TDD 1-800-730-8913**.

What happens after I mail in my form? Within four weeks, the U.S. Department of Education will send you a **Student Aid Report (SAR).** On the SAR will be either a request for further information or a number called an **Expected Family Contribution** (EFC). We use a formula established by law to figure the EFC from the information you give us. Your college uses the EFC to determine the amount of your Federal grant, loan, or work-study award, if you are eligible.

Your college or the U.S. Department of Education may ask you to prove that the information you gave on your application is true. Be sure to make a copy of your application form before mailing it.

What if I don't get a SAR or I need another copy of my SAR? If you don't get a SAR within four weeks, call this Federal student aid information number, **1-319-337-5665.** You can find out if your application has been processed, or you may request duplicate copies of your SAR.

What if my situation changes? Some questions ask you to make projections, for example, about your family status for the coming year. If your answers to these questions change, wait until you receive your SAR, then check with your financial aid administrator. The income and expense information reported on this form must be accurate for the past year (1995), not for the coming year. If your financial situation changes, check with your financial aid administrator.

How long does it take to complete this application? The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to vary from one hour to one hour and thirty minutes, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651. If you have any comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: Application and Pell Processing Systems Division, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202.

Deadlines for State Student Aid

AL	Check with your financial aid administrator
AK	Check with your financial aid administrator SSIG - May 31, 1996
*AS	Check with your financial aid administrator
AZ	June 30, 1997 - date received
AR	April 15, 1996 - date received
*CA	March 2, 1996 - date postmarked
CO	Determined by school
*CT	Check with your financial aid administrator
DE	April 15, 1996 - date received
*DC	June 24, 1996 - date received by state
FL	May 15, 1996 - date processed
GA	Determined by school
*GU	Check with your financial aid administrator
HI	March 1, 1996
ID	Determined by school
IL	For first-time applicants - October 1, 1996 For continuing applicants - June 1, 1996 date processed
IN	March 1, 1996 - date postmarked
IA	April 19, 1996 - date received
*KS	For priority consideration - April 1, 1996 - date processed OR March 15, 1996 - date received
KY	For priority consideration - March 15, 1996
LA	March 15, 1996 - date postmarked OR April 1, 1996 - date received Check with your financial aid administrator
*ME	May 1, 1996 - date received
MD	March 1, 1996 - date postmarked
MA	For priority consideration - May 1, 1996 date received
MI	HS Seniors - February 21, 1996 College students - March 21, 1996 Date received
MN	June 30, 1997 - date received
MS	Determined by school
MO	April 30, 1996 - date received
MT	For large schools - March 1, 1996 For small schools - April 1, 1996
*NE	Determined by school
*NV	Determined by school
NH	May 1, 1996 - date received
NJ	1995-96 Tuition Aid Grant Recipients - June 1, 1996 All other applicants - October 1, 1996 for fall & spring terms March 1, 1997 for spring term only date received
NM	Determined by school
*NY	May 1, 1997 - date postmarked
NC	March 15, 1996 - date received
ND	April 15, 1996 - date processed
OH	October 1, 1996 date received
OK	April 30, 1996 - date received
OR	None - contingent on funding - date received
*PA	All 1995-96 State grant recipients - May 1, 1996 Non-1995-96 State grant recipients enrolling in degree programs - May 1, 1996 All other applicants - August 1, 1996 date received
PR	May 2, 1997 - date application signed
RI	March 1, 1996 - date received
*SC	June 30, 1996 - date received
*SD	Determined by school
TN	May 1, 1996 - date processed
*TX	Determined by school
UT	Determined by school
*VT	None
*VI	Check with your financial aid administrator
*VA	Determined by school
WA	Determined by school
*WV	March 1, 1996 - date received
WI	None - contingent on funding
*WY	Determined by school
*FM	Check with your financial aid administrator
*MH	Check with your financial aid administrator
*MP	Check with your financial aid administrator
*PW	Check with your financial aid administrator

* Additional form may be required. Contact your financial aid administrator or your state agency.

Note: Date received means "at the address on this form."

WORKSHEET #1 *(Keep this worksheet. Your college may ask to see it.)*

	For question 55 Student/Spouse	For question 67 Parent(s)
Wages,salaries,tips,etc.	$ .00	$ .00
Interest income	+ .00	+ .00
Dividends	+ .00	+ .00
Other taxable income (alimony received, business and farm income, capital gains, pensions, annuities, rents, unemployment compensation, Social Security, Railroad Retirement, and all other taxable income)	+ .00	+ .00
Add all of the numbers in the column	= .00	= .00
Subtract IRS-allowable adjustments to income (payments to IRA and Keogh Plans, one half of self-employment tax, self-employed health insurance deduction, interest penalty on early withdrawal of savings, and alimony paid)	- .00	- .00
TOTAL—Write this amount in question 55 and/or 67:	$ .00	$ .00

WORKSHEET #2 *(Keep this worksheet. Your college may ask to see it.)*

	For question 63 Student/Spouse	For question 75 Parent(s)
Amounts from IRS tax forms		
Deductible IRA and/or Keogh payments from Form 1040-total of lines 23a, 23b, and 27 **or** 1040A-line 15c	$ .00	$ .00
Untaxed portions of pensions from Form 1040-line 15a minus 15b and 16a minus 16b **or** 1040A-line 10a minus 10b and 11a minus 11b (excluding "rollovers")	+ .00	+ .00
Credit for Federal tax on special fuels from IRS Form 4136 - Part III: Total Income Tax Credit (non-farmers only)	+ .00	+ .00
Foreign income exclusion from Form 2555-line 43 or Form 2555EZ-line 18	+ .00	+ .00
Tax exempt interest income from Form 1040-line 8b **or** 1040A-line 8b	+ .00	+ .00
Other Untaxed Income and Benefits		
Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings) as reported on the W-2 Form. Include untaxed portions of 401(k) and 403(b) plans.	+ .00	+ .00
Welfare benefits (except AFDC or ADC, which you should have reported in FAFSA question 61 or 73)	+ .00	+ .00
Workers' Compensation	+ .00	+ .00
Veterans noneducation benefits such as Death Pension, Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC), etc.	+ .00	+ .00
Housing, food, and other living allowances (excluding rent subsidies for low-income housing) paid to members of the military, clergy, and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits)	+ .00	+ .00
Cash or any money paid on your behalf, not reported elsewhere on this form	+ .00	XXXXXXXXXX
Any other untaxed income and benefits, such as Black Lung Benefits, Refugee Assistance, or untaxed portions of Railroad Retirement Benefits	+ .00	+ .00
TOTAL—Write this amount in question 63 and/or 75:	$ .00	$ .00

Don't include:

- Social Security
- Any income reported elsewhere on the form
- Money from student financial aid
- Food stamps
- "Rollover" pensions
- JTPA benefits
- Gifts and support, other than money, received from friends or relatives
- Veterans educational benefits (GI Bill, Dependents Education Assistance Program, VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program, VEAP benefits, etc.)
- Payments received from states for foster care and adoption assistance, under title IV-A or IV-E of the Social Security Act

WORKSHEET #3 *(Keep this worksheet. Your college may ask to see it.)*

(Note: On this worksheet, use amounts received during the **calendar year from January 1, 1995 to December 31, 1995**, rather than amounts received during the school year.)

	For question 64 Student/Spouse	For question 76 Parent(s)
1. Grant and scholarship aid in excess of tuition, fees, books, and required supplies that you reported or will report on your 1995 income tax return (FAFSA questions 55 and/or 67) and/or as your earned income (FAFSA questions 57–58 and/or 69–70).	$ .00	$ .00
2. Earnings from Federal Work-Study or other need-based work programs.	+ .00	+ .00
3. Allowances and benefits received under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993.	+ .00	+ .00
4. Child support **PAID** because of divorce or separation, by student & spouse, or by the parent(s) whose income is reported on this form. (Do not include support for children living in your home.)	+ .00	+ .00
TOTAL—Write this amount in question 64 and/or 76:	$ .00	$ .00

INFORMATION ON THE PRIVACY ACT AND USE OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that each Federal agency that asks for your social security number or other information must tell you the following:

1. Its legal right to ask for the information and whether the law says you must give it.
2. What purpose the agency has in asking for it and how it will be used.
3. What could happen if you do not give it.

You must give your social security number (SSN) to apply for Federal student financial aid. The U.S. Department of Education's legal right under the Title IV programs to require that you provide us with your SSN is based on Section 484(a)(4)(B) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The SSN is used under the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, and Federal Work-Study programs in recording information about your college attendance and progress, and in making sure that you have received your money. The SSN is also used under the Federal Family Education Loan, Federal Direct Student Loan, and Federal Perkins Loan programs to identify the applicant, to determine program eligibility and benefits, and to permit servicing and collecting of the loans.

If you are applying for Federal student aid only, you must fill out everything except questions 12, 18, 20-21, 22-23, 24-28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 50, 92-103, 104, and 105. If you wish to be considered for state student aid, you must fill out all of the questions, and do not answer "No" to question 104. The authority to request all other information (except the SSN) is based on sections 474, 475, 476, 477, 479, 480, and 483 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. This information is used to determine the amount of Federal student aid for which you may be qualified.

The information which you supplied may be disclosed to third parties that the Department has authorized to assist in administering Federal student aid programs. This disclosure may include private firms that the Department contracts with for the purpose of collating, analyzing, totalling or refining records in the system and who are required to maintain safeguards under the Privacy Act. This may also be accomplished through computer matching programs with other Federal agencies for verification of information as to eligibility for benefit programs, debt collection and the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse. For example, such computer matching programs include the ones conducted with the Selective Service System, the Social Security Administration, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and in cooperation with the Department of Justice to enforce Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act.

We will provide your name, address, social security number, date of birth, expected family contribution number, student status, and state of legal residence to the financial aid agency(ies) in your state of legal residence, even if you answer "No" in question 104. This information will go to the state agencies in your state of legal residence to help coordinate state financial aid programs with Federal student aid programs. We will also provide your application information to the college(s) you listed in Section H, or its representative. We will also send your information to the financial aid agency(ies) in the state(s) in which the college(s) is located, but only if you do not answer "No" in question 104. We will provide calculations and determination of eligibility to the agency with which you filed a student aid application, or another similar agency, if you request us to do so. That agency may also release information received from the Department to colleges, state scholarship agencies, and loan guaranty agencies that you have designated to receive information. Also, we may send information to members of Congress if you ask them to help you with Federal student aid questions. If your parents or your spouse provided information on the form, they may also request to see all the information on the application (as covered by their certification).

If the Federal government, the Department, or an employee of the Department is involved in litigation, we may send information to the Department of Justice, or a court or adjudicative body, if the disclosure is related to financial aid and certain other conditions are met. The information may also be made available to Federal agencies which have the authority to subpoena other Federal agencies' records. In addition, we may send your information to a foreign, Federal, state, or local enforcement agency if the information that you submitted indicates a violation or potential violation of law, for which that agency has jurisdiction for investigation or prosecution. Finally, we may send information regarding a claim which is determined to be valid and overdue to a consumer reporting agency. This information includes identifiers from the record, the amount, status and history of the claim and the program under which the claim arose.

REMEMBER, WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATION BY JUNE 30, 1997.

FROM _____

_____

_____

PLACE
POSTAGE
STAMP
HERE

Federal Student Aid Programs
P.O. Box 60001
Cahokia, IL 62206-6001

56

57 Detach Here Before Mailing

"PLEASE FOLD AND TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE"

BEFORE YOU SEAL THIS ENVELOPE—

- Don't sign, date, or mail this application before January 1, 1996. If you do, it will be returned unprocessed.
- Are the right signatures on the form?
- Is your address correct on the form?
- Is your (the student's) Social Security Number on the form?
- Don't put anything in this envelope except your form.

U.S. Department of Education • Student Financial Assistance Programs